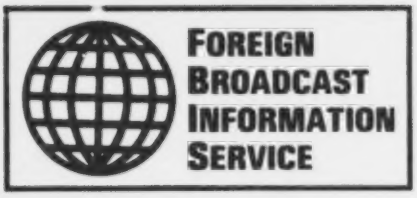

Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-183
Friday
22 September 1989

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-183 *22 September 1989*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Improvement of Relations With U.S. Advocated *[Havana Radio]* 1
U.S. Sugar Import Policy Criticized *[Havana Radio]* 1
Havana Notes Results of Recent CPSU Plenum *[Havana TV]* 1
Party Officials Arrive in Berlin for Meeting *[Havana TV]* 1
PCC Official Welcomes Combatants From Angola *[Havana TV]* 2

Antigua and Barbuda

Government Accused of Incompetence in Relief *[CANA]* 2

British Virgin Islands

Hurricane Causes $200 Million in Damage *[CANA]* 2

Dominican Republic

Nation Seeks Closer Links With Caricom *[CANA]* 3

Haiti

PUCH's Bourjolly Sentenced 10 Years in Jail *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 3
Lawyer Says Arrest Illegal *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 3
Committee Questions Detention *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 4
Liaison Committee To Form Election Coalition *[L'UNION 20 Sep]* 4
Unity Party Decides Not To Run Candidate *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6
Government Creates Citizenry Protection Office *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

New Governor General David Jack Sworn In *[CANA]* 6

MEXICO

Salinas Speech on 'Economic Modernization' *[EXCELSIOR 12 Sep]* 7
Police 'Violently' Dislodge PRD Members *[UNOMASUNO 17 Sep]* 8
Revenue Increases During First Half of 1989 *[UNOMASUNO 22 Aug]* 8

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Commentary on Noriega's 'Threat' Against Radio *[San Jose Radio]* 10

El Salvador

U.S. Advisers' Request for Information Reported *[Radio Venceremos]* 10
FMLN Commander Martinez Interviewed *[Radio Venceremos]* 10
Workers Brought to Trial; Government Scored *[San Salvador TV]* 11

Guatemala

Guerrillas Raid Village, Attack Bus; 5 Shot *[PRENSA LIBRE 19 Sep]* 12
Kidnapped Student's Body Found in El Progress *[AFP]* 12

Nicaragua

Cuadra: Contras Want To Conceal Combatants *[ACAN]* 12
Bayardo Arce Says Poll Shows Ortega Leading *[Managua TV]* 13
Violeta Chamorro Views Election Prospects *[Madrid ABC 8 Sep]* 13
Honduran Red Cross Official Deported to Nicaragua *[Managua Radio]* 14
Political Prisoners Said Taken to Secret Jails *[Managua Radio]* 15
Health Cooperation Accord Signed With Honduras *[Managua Radio]* 15

Panama

Reportage on U.S. Actions Against Country 15
Embassy: Expanded 'Blacklist' *[Panama City Radio]* 15
Commercial Ties Prohibited *[Hamburg DPA]* 15
'Rumors' of U.S. Bank Actions *[Panama City Radio]* 16
Noriega Interviewed on Relations With U. S. *[Hamburg DPA]* 16
Vice President Ozores Comments on EC Decision *[Panama City Radio]* 17
Column Views Status of Relations With U.S. *[LA REPUBLICA 20 Sep]* 17
FENASEP Leader Regrets Government Policy *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 20 Sep]* 18
PALA Leaders Deny Rift With Government, PRD *[Panama City Radio]* 18
Opposition Leaders To Begin Diplomatic Offensive *[AFP]* 19

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Cavallo on Relations With U.S., Debt, Drugs *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 20
Cavallo Meeting With UK Representative Planned *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 20
New Narcotics Bill Approved After Modifications *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 20
Former President Alfonsin Returns From Nicaragua *[LA PRENSA 21 Sep]* 20
Roger Installed as New Prosecutor General *[TELAM]* 20
Army Chief of Staff Returns From Chile *[TELAM]* 20
Important Arsenal Discovered in Buenos Aires *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 21

Bolivia

President Paz' International Agenda Disclosed *[La Paz Radio]* 21
To Launch Antidrug 'Offensive' *[La Paz Radio]* 21
Advances Departure for U.S. *[La Paz Radio]* 22
Capobianco Names Leader of Antidrug Forces 22
Retired General To Lead Struggle *[La Paz Radio]* 22
Discusses Reorganization *[PRESENCIA 17 Sep]* 22
Foreign Minister Comments on Drug Offensive *[La Paz Radio]* 23
Information Minister on Drugs, Corruption *[EL DIARIO 17 Sep]* 23
General Molina Discusses Antidrug Measures *[EL DIARIO 17 Sep]* 24
Peasants Protest Violence in Cochabamba *[La Paz Radio]* 24

Brazil

Sarney To Address UN General Assembly 25 Sep *[Brasilia Radio]* 24
Finance Minister Visits Mexico, Comments on IMF *[Brasilia Radio]* 25

Chile

Pinochet Acknowledges Possible Victory by Aylwin *[LA TERCERA DE LA HORA 14 Sep]* 25
Foreign Debt Reduced Through Conversion *[Madrid EFE]* 25
Naval Prosecutor Indicts Three Terrorists *[EL MERCURIO 10 Sep]* 25
Individual Attacks Military Unit in Temuco, Flees *[EL MERCURIO 9 Sep]* 25

Explosions in Santiago Cause Damage, No Injuries *[LA TERCERA DE LA HORA 12 Sep]* 25

Colombia

U.S. Embroiled in Controversy Over Visa Issuance 26
Senators Respond to 'Blacklist' *[Bogota Radio]* 26
Londono Wants U.S. Explanation *[Bogota Radio]* 28
Justice Minister De Greiff Tenders Resignation *[Bogota Radio]* 29
Continuing Coverage of Trafficking War 29
More on DAS Chief's Statements *[Bogota TV]* 29
Former Politician Implicated *[Madrid EFE]* 29
Raid in Cali; 1 Dead, 4 Injured *[Bogota Radio]* 30
Nine Bombs Detonate in Bogota *[Bogota Radio]* 30
Police Deactivate 2 Car Bombs *[Bogota Radio]* 30
Bombs Explode in Bogota Banks *[Madrid EFE]* 31
Reward Offered for Two ELN Guerrilla Leaders *[AFP]* 31
Government, M-19 To Enter New Dialogue *[Bogota Radio]* 31
Authorities Discover Terrorist Plan in Bogota *[Bogota Radio]* 31
UP Congress Expresses Solidarity With Panama *[CRITICA 18 Sep]* 31
Official Foresees Foreign Exchange Crisis *[Bogota Radio]* 32

Ecuador

Cordovez Asks U.S. Help With Drug Trafficking *[Hamburg DPA]* 32

Paraguay

Military Chiefs Voice 'Concern' on Democracy *[ULTIMA HORA 21 Sep]* 33
Official Previews Rodriguez Speech to UN *[ABC COLOR 21 Sep]* 34

Peru

Abel Salinas Designated Foreign Debt Negotiator *[Lima Radio]* 34
Government Saves Petroperu From Economic Collapse *[EXPRESO 18 Sep]* 34
Health Minister Reportedly Resigns 21 Sep *[Madrid EFE]* 35
Huamango Mayor Murdered by Terrorists *[Lima Radio]* 35

Uruguay

Sanguinetti Returns, Comments on Trip Results *[Montevideo Radio]* 35
Ten Presidential Hopefuls in Upcoming Elections *[Madrid EFE]* 36
Public Works Minister Sanguinetti Resigns *[Montevideo Radio]* 36
Senator Batlle Resigns To Run for President *[EL DIA 13 Sep]* 36

Venezuela

Perez Comments on Debt Renegotiation Publicity *[Caracas TV]* 36
Nicaragua's Chamorro Meets Perez; Urges Support *[Hamburg DPA]* 37

Suriname

Belgian Group Meets With Foreign Minister Sedoc *[Paramaribo International]* 37
Chairman Interviewed *[Paramaribo International]* 37
Soviet Envoy: Bilateral Relations Deepening *[Paramaribo International]* 37
Indications Show Indians' Weapons From Venezuela *[Paramaribo International]* 38
Commission Opposes Refugee Registration Method *[Paramaribo International]* 38
Strike in Nickerie Suspended for Security Reasons *[Paramaribo International]* 38

Cuba

Improvement of Relations With U.S. Advocated

FL2209015889 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0107 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Cuban-U.S. groups today in Congress advocated improved relations with our country and lifting of the economic blockade which was imposed on the island for more than 25 years ago. The House of Representatives Subcommittee for Hemispheric Affairs is holding the hearings, which began in July to examine in-depth the current state of relations between Washington and Havana.

(?Three) pieces of legislation are currently being analyzed by the U.S. Congress, including the issue of sending medical material to Cuba, improved telephone communications, and allowing U.S. citizens to travel to the island.

Since 1981, the U.S. Government has prohibited firms or subsidiaries abroad from having any type of commercial relations with Cuba and President Reagan prohibited U.S. residents from visiting our country.

The House of Representatives Subcommittee for Hemispheric Affairs today heard remarks made by the Cuban-U.S. Committee, the Cuban-American Coalition, and the Commission for Family Rights.

(Galmares Cabezas), director of the Cuban-U.S. Committee, said that the White House policy is based on premises that are no longer viable and she demanded that the economic blockade be brought to an end. (Cabezas) also said that a small but powerful sector of the Cuban community in the United States that opposes improved relations with Cuba is conducting a campaign of intimidation against those who favor detente. The director of the Cuban-U.S. Committee said that during the past 18 months, 12 dynamite attacks have been made against people of Cuban origin who are participating in the negotiations.

U.S. Sugar Import Policy Criticized

FL2109175589 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter adores spectacular poses as much as any Hollywood actor does. Recently, he announced that his country, the United States, was planning to increase its sugar purchases to 860,000 tons. Up to this point, this issue is not significant. The case is that Yeutter attempted to explain the decision as his government's initiative to relieve the economies of some sugar-producing countries.

This saintly role does not fit the U.S. representative. In reality it is different. The U.S. decision is basically due to the risk of a drop of the sugar supply produced by U.S. industries. In other words, the much publicized increase is nothing more than the solution to a U.S. domestic market problem. Besides, there is hardly anyone stupid enough to let himself be fooled.

Remember that it was in May 1981 that, after its industries were subsidized, the United States implemented the limitation of preferential sugar quotas. Since then, the powerful empire has been decreasing its purchases of Latin American sugar. Consequently, this has driven over 30 commercial enterprises in the region to bankruptcy.

Where, then, does this savior posture comes from? Less than 10 years ago, the United States imported some 5 million tons of sugar while now it imports less than 1 million. Added to this, the EEC went from being an importer to an exporter. Such policies have been a major disaster to Latin American sugar producer countries, with the exception of Cuba.

The intolerable situation of poverty and crisis of Latin American sugar producers is due, to a great extent, to the miserable game being played by the great neighbor to the north and the ultramodern and humanitarian Europeans.

Havana Notes Results of Recent CPSU Plenum

FL2109114689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Top Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has made a call for the consolidation of the CPSU, the Central Committee, and the entire society. Gorbachev referred to this during the closing of the Central Committee plenum which approved a working platform called the current party policy on nationalities granting more autonomy to the republics and more economic and judicial rights.

The CPSU general secretary noted that a frank exchange of views and understanding on the new role of the party prevailed during the plenum. The participants of the plenum believed that the ideas and postulates of the approved document can be a political base for the renovation of the Soviet federation, the development of all ideas, and the solution to other national problems.

Also, the plenum approved a broad restructuring of the Politburo with the retirement of three of its full members and two candidate members. Likewise, it elected two new Politburo members and two candidate members.

Party Officials Arrive in Berlin for Meeting

FL2109122589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo and Secretariat, has arrived in Berlin to attend a meeting of ideology secretaries of communist and labor parties from socialist countries. For his part, Jose Ramon Balaguer, secretary of the PCC Central Committee, who arrived earlier to

the GDR capital and is heading the Cuban party delegation together with Risquet, met in Berlin with Kurt Hager, member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Politburo.

PCC Official Welcomes Combatants From Angola

FL2109125689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] A new group of Cuban internationalist combatants has returned to the fatherland from the People's Republic of Angola. They were welcomed at the Jose Marti International Airport by Melba Hernandez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee; Brigade General Ezequiel Suarez Matos, of the Interior Ministry; Colonel Roberto Oliva Cedeno, of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; and other leaders of political and mass organizations. Our internationalists return victorious to the fatherland and the people receive them with the love and honor they deserve for fulfilling their duty.

Antigua and Barbuda

Government Accused of Incompetence in Relief

FL2209012789 Bridgetown CANA in English 0008 GMT 22 Sep 89

[By Colin James]

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, Sept 21, CANA—The government has had to fend off charges of incompetence in its handling of rehabilitation of Antigua and Barbuda after the damage caused by Hurricane Hugo.

A government official has hit back accusing the Antigua Workers' Union (AWU) of sabotage by encouraging workers at the state-run Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) to stage a "go slow" following a breakdown in wage talks now referred to the Industrial Court. The spokesman said if the situation continues, the government would not hesitate to employ local volunteers or seek outside assistance to help restore electricity which has been out since last Saturday night as Hugo approached with 140 mile an hour winds.

The APUA, an essential service, is responsible for electricity, telephone, and water.

General secretary of the AWU Keithlyn Smith said the accusation was false and is designed to cover-up the government's inefficiency.

"It is far from the truth. I told the workers during a meeting that there is a crisis and we have to put out our best," Smith said. He added: "The magnitude of the crisis cannot be restored by the workers alone. The extent is far worse than was anticipated."

Smith said the AWU is so concerned about the situation in the country that himself and another senior union official postponed overseas visits to address the situation. The general secretary accused the government of taking too long to address the nation, appointing a committee to oversee rehabilitation only on Wednesday.

"For four days after the hurricane, the government nor the management have not addressed the workers. [sentence as received] They have not announced any plans. They have selected a committee which is unaware of the situation. They have not put anyone from the opposition, the union, or APUA on the committee," Smith said.

Leader of the left-wing Antigua-Caribbean Liberation Movement (ACLM) Tim Hector told CANA his party was disappointed in the government's response.

"We are gravely disappointed in the government of Antigua and its disaster administration which failed to provide shelters with the basics such as food, blankets, water, security in the form of even a single policeman and no medical and para-medical personnel," Hector said.

He added: "Up until Wednesday morning, international aid donors had been complaining that they have been unable to get realistic or even un-realistic estimates.

"This, of course, is lamentable and speaks volumes about the paralysis and incompetence of the Bird regime," Hector said.

A businessman who asked not to be named has also shared similar sentiments expressed by Hector. "To date we have not seen any organised force taking up fallen utility poles. It is hopeless," the businessman said.

But another businessman said the government was doing its best in spite of the circumstance. "They (government) are doing a fair bit of work. The damages that have been done it would take a few weeks to get it organised," he said. [sentence as received]

Only last month, the head of the Pan Caribbean Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Project Franklyn McDonald expressed concern about the country's disaster preparedness.

Some insurance companies have begun making payments on claims for damages caused by Hugo. So far, more than 1,000 claims have been received by companies.

One government minister said some motorists are hoarding petrol, saying there was enough gasolene to serve the country. Gas stations with stand-by generators are operating with long lines of vehicles on a daily basis.

British Virgin Islands

Hurricane Causes $200 Million in Damage

FL2209021989 Bridgetown CANA in English 0049 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Sept 21, CANA—The tourism sector in the British Virgin Islands on Thursday reported U.S.8 million dollars in damage after Hurricane Hugo lashed the territory on the weekend.

Chief Minister H. Lavity Stoute said at least 100 people lost their homes but the final count could be higher.

In a message transmitted to the Barbados-based Caribbean Tourism Organisation, Stoute said six hotels have been damaged but efforts were being made to get them ready for the coming winter season. He reported 40 yachts lost and 75 damaged. The message said air and sea ports were open and functional, while flights from San Juan, Puerto Rico were expected to begin operating on Thursday. It said roads were usable but badly damaged.

Overall damage to the territory has been put at U.S. 200 million dollars.

Dominican Republic

Nation Seeks Closer Links With Caricom

FL2109163689 Bridgetown CANA in English 1458 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 21, CANA - A two-member delegation from the Dominican Republic has met with officials of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) Secretariat during a fact-finding mission aimed at forecasting clear trade and political relations with (Caricom).

The two-member team, composing Bernarda Germoso, a technician of the Dominican Center for Export Promotion, and Robert Berges, a technician of the Research Department of the Dominican Republic Central Bank, held discussions last week with statistics, trade, and other Secretariat officials, a release from the Secretariat said on Thursday.

The discussions centered on the status of trade between Caricom and the Dominican Republic and possibilities for increasing that trade, as well as modalities for cooperation between Caribbean ACP [African, Caribbean, and Pacific] countries in respect of their relations with the EEC. Caricom trade with the European Community and the Caribbean Community involvement in the Lome convention also received attention.

The Dominican Republic has applied for membership of the Lome Convention, a trade and aid arrangement between the EEC and the African, Caribbean and Pacific group of countries.

During the last meeting of the Caricom common market, it was urged to look at the Dominican Republic's application in a very positive way. However, the impact of its accession to the Lome Convention on Caricom's sugar, banana, and rum which enjoy preferential treatment in the EEC market continues to be a matter of concern for Caricom which is seeing a gradual erosion of these preferences, the secretariat said.

The Dominican Republic has been accorded observer status at meetings of Caricom ministers of agriculture, labour, health and education.

Haiti

PUCH's Bourjolly Sentenced 10 Years in Jail

FL2109122089 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1755 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Unified Party of Haitian Communists [PUCH] number two man Max Bourjolly and his bodyguard, imprisoned at the National Penitentiary since last Friday, did not appear today as scheduled before the court of summary jurisdiction. PUCH number one man Rene Theodore says this latest decision is an act of treachery.

Theodore feels the authorities are trying to keep his deputy in jail by any means. He cites as an example the court decision reached at the last minute to sentence Max Bourjolly to a harsh sentence of 10 years imprisonment.

Lawyer Says Arrest Illegal

FL2109143589 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Max Bourjolly, who is the Unified Party of Haitian Communists' [PUCH] No 2 man, and his bodyguard were still imprisoned at the National Penitentiary today accused of illegal possession of firearms. The two men were to appear before the court of summary jurisdiction today, Wednesday.

After being taken before the examining magistrate yesterday, the two men were returned to prison. A request for a provisional release was denied.

Bourjolly goes before the court of summary jurisdiction today. His lawyer Jean Claude Nord answers [reporter] Nancy's questions.

[Begin recording] [Nancy Roc] Mr Nord, could you tell our listeners how Mr Bourjolly was arrested?

[Nord] They arrested him illegally. They jumped over the wall onto his property to arrest his bodyguard Herard Wilfrid. They struck the bodyguard. He was within his rights on his property.

Second, they did not identify themselves as the police. They entered the men's home in civilian clothing.

Mr Bourjolly was arrested on Friday morning at 1045. They called him and apprehended him. This is an arbitrary form of arrest. The Constitution stipulates the procedure to be followed in arresting someone. [passage omitted]

Here's what's happening! We are not living under a rule of law. We are living in a jungle! The stronger eats the weaker. [passage omitted] They do whatever they want in the country. [passage omitted]

When I showed up in court yesterday, Tuesday, the judge told me he was going to send them before the court of summary jurisdiction. Why? I don't understand a thing.

Someone is telling them what to do because a phone call is made at each stage of the procedure. This intrigues me. I must tell you that I am extremely disgusted. Why? The examining magistrate is a republic's principal figure when one is under a rule of law. [passage omitted]

Thus, the examining magistrate has the authority to order a provisional release. Max Bourjolly is an important figure. Everyone knows him. Everyone knows where he lives. He can't get away! (?Even assuming you feared) he might flee, you can issue an order forbidding him to leave the country.

[Passage omitted] What do I see? For the time being, I see black! Really black. Article 268.1 of the Constitution states that all citizens have the right to armed self-defense within the limits of their domicile but do not have a right to carry a weapon without the express authorization and justification of the chief of police. The Constitution does not specify what weapons you may or may not possess. Everyone knows the total insecurity under which the Haitian people are living. Everyone knows it! [passage omitted] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Committee Questions Detention

FL2109180589 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpts]Max Bourjolly, No 2 man in the Unified Party of Haitian Communists [PUCH], did not appear as scheduled before the court of summary jurisdiction on Wednesday 20 September 1989. The same day, PUCH No 1 man Rene Theodore denounced a plot being set up involving a special edition of LE MONITEUR [the official gazette] for sentencing Max Bourjolly to 10 years imprisonment and a 75,000-gourde fine.

Theodore said the government issued on 20 September a special back-dated edition of LE MONITEUR bearing the number 41-A in which they (?put) a decree on possession of firearms which enables them to issue a harsh ruling in the case of the PUCH's No 2 man.

Lawyer Moyse Senatus, speaking on behalf of the Haitian Lawyers Committee [Coavha], said on another Port-au-Prince radio station that Coavha would not express an opinion on the legal aspect of the illegal possession of firearms. Senatus said however, what Coavha finds surprising is that the government has been searching for weapons for a long time and has even found some. However, why are they dwelling in particular on the Max Bourjolly case?

Senatus added that the evolution of this matter could be very dangerous for the government. Listen.

[Begin Senatus recording] It is not up to us at present to take a position on the legal aspects of the illegal possession of firearms. However, placing the matter in a broader context, we are surprised. Why, are they holding Max Bourjolly in custody for such a long time in connection with this matter? We know that there have been a number of weapons' searches. [passage omitted] They have looked for firearms and found them but no such case has ever appeared in court.

We think this matter is evolving very dangerously for the government. In particular, because it is a communist they have arrested and there has been a tradition, especially over the past 30-year Duvalier period, of hunting down communists. [passage omitted]

In the case of Bourjolly, we are wondering why his provisional release has not yet been granted. [passage omitted]

At the present time and for the past 3 years, more or less, we know there have been people who have had many weapons at home and used them in crimes being committed in this country. For the past 3 years, there have been searches for weapons and the government itself has admitted that it has found many weapons. If it has conducted a number of searches for weapons in people's houses and found weapons possessed illegally, why has there never been a case where they arrest the people and send them before an examining magistrate and the office of the Public Prosecutor and so forth? [passage omitted]

We agree that we are struggling for a rule of law. This rule of law must not be selective. There must be no discrimination in the matter.

Why is it that, for some 3 years now, weapons have been fired in this country, people have been dying, and the government has been finding weapons in people's houses but by mere coincidence it is the Bourjolly case that.... [changes thought] What is Bourjolly? A communist! [passage omitted]

This case constitutes a dangerous precedent. [passage omitted]

When this happens to a communist, we have to be very wary because if it can happen to a communist today but it can also happen to some other democrat in Haiti tomorrow. [passage omitted]

It is in the government's best interests to apply the law but not to any one particular type of person or [words indistinct]. The law must not be applied selectively. It must not be discriminatory. [end recording]

Liaison Committee To Form Election Coalition

FL2109163289 Port-au-Prince L'UNION in French No 214, 20 Sep 89 pp 1, 8

["Liaison Committee of the Democratic Forces (CLFD)-:" names as published]

[Excerpts]

Preliminary statement.

The CLFD, through its political office, greets the journalists who have responded to this morning's call. The political office greets everyone who has responded positively to this invitation.

Democracy was celebrated yesterday 17 September. The struggle continues today 18 September.

On 17 September 1988, the gallant soldiers of the Presidential Guard saved the country, through intervention, from a night of bloodshed at the hands of the assassins and executioners paid by Franck Romain, Regala, and despot Henry Namphy. The lewd and gratuitous crime of 11 September at St Jean Bosco Church had given a public demonstration of what Namphy, in his madness, was capable of.

The Presidential Guard did the nation proud by overthrowing this new Nero of the Caribbean, thereby saving the lives of thousands of citizens from the democratic and people's standpoint.

The unleashing of passions and petty partisan interests seem to have presently erased these facts from the memories of numerous political leaders and militants who would be dead today just as the heroic leaders whose lives were torn from them by lawless individuals in the pay of the old guard. [passage omitted]

Current Juncture

Several ephemeral governments preceded the 17 September 1988 government. Today one can see that the country is embarking upon the certain path of political stability. However, after the destabilization attempts at the beginning of April, one again notices a desire by a certain sectors to begin the final battle to overthrow the current government. The Duvalierist old guard, perpetrators of the 29 November 1987 [election day massacre] and the financial oligarchy are among these sectors that have always pillaged this country since 1804 by sucking the Haitian people's blood and robbing them of their work strength.

Unfortunately, these two sectors have been joined by former allies of CLFD (labor union groups, popular movements)—allies going astray into this antinational alliance. The CLFD asks them to return to reason.

The struggle between the forces of change and the reactionary forces that we mentioned is at the root of the current political crisis. [passage omitted]

The Economic Crisis

The current economic crisis serves as an argument to turn the masses against the government. This crisis cannot be seen as a result of the economic policy of the government of 17 September 1988. Rather, it is the result of 33 years of disorder, misappropriation of funds, and pillaging of the nation's wealth by the financial oligarchy. [passage omitted]

The government did shoulder its responsibilities by adopting certain proposals made by the IMF. Not all the proposals were accepted. For example, a surtax on petroleum and another one on agricultural goods were refused. The government even insisted on abolishing certain taxes, such as the marketplace tax.

At the current juncture, the financial oligarchy (the merchant sector and the assembly industry banks), public enemy No 1, has manipulated the exchange value of the gourde to artificially bring about a decline in its value which has at certain times reached 45 percent.

This oligarchy, a pillar of contraband, is now becoming an expert in the technique of artificially provoking increases in the price of essential consumer products. We now know that in reaction to the recovery policies of the government, which is temporarily limiting the amount of credit, the banks, like a state within the state, have driven the credit ceiling up beyond limits by granting the commercial and industrial sector some $40 million in loans.

In view of this deceit, the CLFD asks the government to revoke the licenses of the banks at fault, as well as the permits to exercise a profession from the merchants and businessmen caught in flagrante delicto manipulating the money and commodities market.

This financial oligarchy unreservedly supported Francois and Jean Claude Duvalier, as well as Namphy. Today, it is allying itself with the most reactionary sector of the Duvalierist old guard to bring the Haitian people to its knees. It is this oligarchy which financed the April coup d'etat and is today again trying to destabilize the government. [passage omitted]

This oligarchy has no national soul, no bond to the Haitian people. If the government does not do its duty against this group of people, the Haitian people will. It should not be forgotten that the CLFD knows how to attack fortresses, as was the case in 1986 and 1987. The 400,000 members of the CLFD throughout Haiti are always ready.

[Passage omitted] On the occasion of the forthcoming elections, the CLFD wishes to announce to the public that it is going to set up a political electoral coalition, which already comprises more than 200 organizations in Haiti (peasants groups, cooperatives, socioprofessional organizations, neighborhood committees, pro-development groups, and political organizations).

This coalition for democratic change remains open to all democratic and people's organizations and to independent political figures who wish to be a part of it. The CLFD's political philosophy and platform will be discussed at the CLFD's next national congress to be held in Gonaives on Saturday, 21 October 1989. Strategies for electoral organization will be adopted by the 2,000 delegates expected to attend the congress.

The coalition will run candidates at all levels and the campaign theme is: unity for democracy, freedom, and development.

The CLFD calls on all its former allies from the Group of 57 and the National Concerted Action Front to embark along the path of the realistic and pragmatic policy that we ourselves have adopted and applied successfully.

Last, the CLFD asks the government to activate social reforms and to continue the legal proceedings against Jean Claude Duvalier and his acolytes to recover the millions stolen from the Haitian people which the nation so greatly needs at present to get out of the current financial crisis.

Unity Party Decides Not To Run Candidate

FL2109182589 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Dr Wisler Pierre-Louis, president of the Party of National Unity for Development, PUND, stated at a news conference on 20 September that the solution for Haiti presently lies neither to the right nor to the left. Pierre-Louis thinks the next government elected is going to be a transition government that will take into account all interests in Haiti to establish democracy.

PUND is not going to run a presidential candidate in the elections. It is, however, making a commitment to determine the outcome of the elections by forming alliances and supporting political parties that see things the same way as PUND. [passage omitted]

PUND is checking out other political parties to see which of them can accept PUND on their side.

However, it seems that as yet none wish to receive PUND.

A journalist asked Pierre-Louis for his opinion of the 1st year of the Prosper Avril government. Pierre-Louis said there was much that was positive and that the Haitian Army could be proud of having had a man like Avril in reserve.

Wisler Pierre-Louis ignored all the acts of violence being committed in the rural sections, the problem of insecurity that has spread over Port-au-Prince, the arbitrary arrests, and so forth.

PUND said the elections should be held in three stages: Administrative Council for the Communal Section and communal magistrates, then legislative elections and last, presidential elections.

Government Creates Citizenry Protection Office

FL2109185289 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The government announces that it has opened an office for the protection of the citizenry. A news release from the Directorate of Information of the Ministry of Information and Coordination announces that a military government decree dated 14 September 1989 creates an independent institution with legal status known as the Office for the Protection of the Citizenry. The Ministry of Justice and the administrative authorities (?are) in charge of relations between the executive and the Office for the Protection of the Citizenry.

According to the 14 September decree, this office's mission is to protect Haitian citizens against all forms of abuse and violation of their rights. It is responsible for intervening and undertaking all necessary initiatives vis-a-vis any and all civilian and military authorities and all pertinent institutions any time the rights and freedoms of citizens are encroached upon.

This office is headed by a Haitian citizen of legal age and in full possession of his civil and political rights, whose title is protector of the citizenry. He is appointed by presidential decree.

The first such appointed protector will remain in office for a 7-year term, at which time a new protector will be appointed, as provided for in Article 207.1 of the Constitution.

The news release further says: The creation of the Office for the Protection of the Citizenry is provided for in the Constitution 1987 and is evidence of the 17 September government's desire to take all measures capable of guaranteeing the promotion of human rights in Haiti.

However, a number of periodicals drew a balance sheet this week on the 1st year of General Avril's government and they pointed out that the most the government has done is to issue decrees right and left. Most of these remain on paper and are never applied.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

New Governor General David Jack Sworn In

FL2209025189 Bridgetown CANA in English 0211 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Kingstown, St. Vincent, Sept 21, CANA—Former Government Minister David Jack is the new governor general of St Vincent and the Grenadines. Jack, 71, was sworn in on Wednesday night. The post has been vacant for the 18 months during which lawyer Henry Williams acted in the post.

Salinas Speech on 'Economic Modernization'

PA2209003489 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 12 Sep 89 pp 1-A, 10-A, 39

[Report by special correspondent Salvador Martinez on speech by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari in Puebla—date not given]

[Text] Puebla, Puebla, 11 Sep—President Salinas de Gortari has asserted that "Mexico's modernization will not benefit foreign interests; it will benefit Mexican interests and our homeland's sovereignty." He noted that it will be achieved with the workers and not against them; with strict adherence to the basic principles of the revolution, not against them; and will be nationalistic and people-oriented, not elitist and foreign-oriented.

Speaking during the ceremony to mark the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Federation of Workers of Puebla [Federacion de Trabajadores de Puebla], a CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] affiliate, the head of state pointed out that the workers will benefit from the economic modernization and will even share in the ownership of the public enterprises to be privatized. He said that the Cananea mining enterprise "will not revert to foreign hands; it will be controlled by Mexicans for the benefit of Mexico." He welcomed the proposal that the workers be co-owners of the new Cananea mining firm.

Explaining the tendencies and objectives of his government's modernization plans, Salinas de Gortari noted that a new climate has been established in the country and that differences of opinion will continue to exist. "We will respect them, but if we do not act jointly and are not committed to a nationalistic and people-oriented modernization policy, we will not be able to stop the deterioration of the living conditions."

At the Infonavit's San Bartolo housing project, where he delivered the speech for the benefit of 20,000 CTM members in Puebla, Salinas de Gortari stressed the need to make firm progress and move toward a lasting economic and social recovery without political conflicts that would have no solution. He urged workers to join forces for the well-being of all Mexicans and above all for the nation's independence.

In a brief but meaningful speech, Salinas de Gortari noted that "we are determined to wage an all-out-war against poverty; the resources we have will be used for the benefit of society and will not remain idle in subsidies to private or public entereprises. We will not close employment sources, we will transform them and will open many new ones to fill in our youths demands.

Regarding the Cananea mining firm, Salinas de Gortari referred to CTM's proposal that workers be co-owners of the new mining company saying that "I welcome that proposal." He stressed that historical places in that sector where the Mexican Revolution began will always belong to the nation, to all Mexicans.

Salinas de Gortari also promised to modernize Cananea with nationalistic spirit for the benefit of workers, of the community of Cananea, and as a source of pride for the nation.

Before thousands of workers, top CTM leaders, Governor Mariano Pina Olaya, and Labor Secretary Arsenio Farell, Salinas de Gortari recalled that the crisis caused a great lag in social investment and in the maintenance of our infrastructures. He stressed: Therefore, we will have to concentrate in strengthening our infrastructures, giving special attention to education, hospital conditions, and finding definite solutions to problems affecting urban areas, such as potable water service, sewers, environmental protection, public security, and respectable transportation service.

Salinas de Gortari emphasized that the truly urgent needs "are those the Mexican people are demanding that we fulfill." He also said that the country will exert itself even more to strengthen productivity in the countryside and increase the peasants' income; and he asserted that the best way to defend our sovereignty today is to strengthen social policies without losing control of the economy.

Salinas added: "A social policy cannot function if it does not generate new methods of organizing and strengthening our society. The reforms to our institutions and the state must respond to the nation's and the people's demands."

The president first praised Mr Blas Chumacero, leader of the Puebla Workers Federation, "and that great leader of the organized workers in the country, Mr Fidel Velasquez"—who have made the firm defense of the workers rights and labor achievements compatible with the necessary increase in productivity and care for the work centers.

Reviewing the country's current situation, President Salinas said that the results we may attain from the foreign debt's renegotiation and all our working capability "will be used to strengthen the social policy and make investments in the infrastructure," to gradually improve the living conditions of many workers and government employees in the countryside and the city."

He also said that the changes demanded in the country—according to the transformations occurring in the world—will be carried out throughout the community and within the enterprises, through a dialogue with the labor unions. "We will include them in a more modern form of activity which guarantees them a job and a better welfare for their families, he said.

The president said that the government will continue to control inflation and defend the PECE [expansion unknown], because this is the only way to permanently guarantee new jobs.

President Salinas ended by saying that Mexico is an essentially strong homeland; that the Mexicans face their

problems with dignity; and, although the people are demanding, they are also generous. He urged everyone "to look toward the future with more assurance and with renewed optimism," advocating social justice to strengthen our historical links. "Today, as always, the homeland is first!"

Police 'Violently' Dislodge PRD Members

PA2009191589 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 17 Sep 89 p 7

[Report by correspondent Ulises Torrentera]

[Text] Oaxaca City, Oaxaca, 16 Sep—While talks between Oaxaca State electoral authorities and PRD [Party of the Democratic Revolution] representatives continued until early in the morning on 15 September to try to resolve the conflicts caused by the PRD's disagreement with the Oaxaca State election results, Preventive and Judicial Police members—observed by members of the 29th Infantry Battalion—violently dispersed PRD members who were blocking the Oaxaca-Istmo road at Tehuantepec and Jalapa del Marques points.

At 0400 on 15 September, a large security team showed up at Jalapa del Marques and dispersed the PRD militants who had intermittently blocked the Oaxaca-Istmo road over the last 2 weeks. Some of the demonstrators were injured and others were arrested and put at the disposal of the Attorney General's Office.

Two hours later, the PRD followers at Tehuantepec were also dislodged from the road. Some demonstrators were injured and others arrested. In both operations, soldiers acted as observers and did not participate in the actions.

Meanwhile, the change of authority conducted on 16 September in most of the 570 Oaxaca State mayorships was filled with tension and minor incidents. In some cases, in view of the occupation of municipal palaces, the elected mayors were sworn in at other facilities.

At the end of the independence day parade in Oaxaca City, State Governor Heladio Ramirez Lopez said: "We will make sure the law is respected; we will continue working firmly so that Oaxaca is ruled by a de jure system. We will not allow any violations of the Constitution. It is our duty and responsibility to grant tranquillity and social peace to our society in order to contribute to its development."

Governor Ramirez added: "In my opinion, nobody has a right to commit illegal acts. Nobody has a right to attack other people's rights. The dislodgement operation was the result of society's indignation more than that of the political parties.

Justice Oaxaca State Attorney Gilberto Trinidad Gutierrez admitted that during the dislodgement of the PRD members stationed on the Oaxaca-Istmo road, there were injured and people who were arrested and released. Trinidad Gutierrez added that both in Tehuantepec and in Jalapa del Marques, "where the people were asked to leave the road but resisted, the people were taken in to make statements and were subsequently released."

Although at the beginning, Trinidad denied that some people had been injured in the operation, he later stated—upon the insistence of the reporters—that because the demonstrators resisted the authorities, "some minor situations, which we cannot describe as serious, took place."

PRD Deputy Clemente Jesus Lopez held the state government responsible for the dislodgement of the PRD militants from Tehuantepec and Jalapa del Marques. Lopez said that the dislodgement is the way the Oaxaca governor responds to the PRD attitude to solve political problems through dialogue and concerted efforts.

A clash took place this morning in Jicayan—where the State Electoral Commission [CEE] confirmed the PRD victory—after the municipal palace was rescued from the hands of the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] members who were unhappy with the election results. According to the report of Jose Luis Cortes, member of the 28 Headman's Organization, some people were injured as a result of the clash, including one seriously injured. Cortes said that Martin Lopez Garcia, member of the said organization, is very ill as a result of the blows he received from the PRI followers.

In Tlacolula—whose case was "frozen" by the CEE—the outgoing municipal authorities delivered the municipal palace "to the people, who subsequently delivered it to the PRD candidate."

Revenue Increases During First Half of 1989

PA2109151789 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 22 Aug 89 pp 1, 16

[Article by Marco A. Mares]

[Text] During the first half of the current year, federal government revenue reflected the favorable effects of the fiscal changes, the development of the country's economic activity, the permanent oversight campaign, and the movement of petroleum prices on the international market. During that period, federal income increased to 44.1972 trillion pesos, 4.4 percent higher in real terms than that obtained in the same period of 1988.

Nonoil revenue increased to 30.7678 trillion pesos in the same period, which represents a real term growth of 11.5 percent over what was obtained in the same period of 1988. This growth came from tax income, which went up 15.1 percent in real terms.

This information is contained in a report entitled "Economic Situation of the Government Finances," which was prepared by the Finance and Public Credit and the Planning and Budget Secretariats. This newspaper obtained a complete copy of the report, which was prepared for the National Congress.

The report says that the favorable effects on fiscal revenue are dramatic, and attributes the result to fiscal changes. The most important of these changes are the adjustments to income taxes, the value added tax, the tax on new cars, and import duties, as well as modifications to the Federal Tariff Law and the Fiscal Coordination Law. Additionally a new Tax on Business Assets was created, which "has made the Mexican tax system more equitable."

The report also states that revenue from income taxes and the tax on business assets increased to 14.0151 trillion pesos, which represents a 22.7 percent increase in real terms over that obtained in the same period of 1988. The report says that this behavior is largely due to changes in the tax on dividends and the elimination of the transition ruling [regimen de transicion], as well as to the levying of a minimum of 2 percent tax on business assets. The 1988 law compelling businesses to make two catch-up payments to provisional tax payments on their profits was also a contributing factor. At the same time the permanent campaign to oversee and simplify procedures has had favorable effects on the collection of revenue at all levels.

Income from the value-added tax rose to 7.0171 trillion pesos, with a growth in real terms of 0.8 percent more than that obtained in the period between January and June 1988, even though the tax on medicines and processed foods was lifted in September 1988 to benefit the lower income class.

The Special Tax on Production and Services generated revenue of 2.0109 trillion pesos, 0.9 percent lower in real terms than that obtained in the same period of 1988.

Revenue from telephone service rose sharply, with an increase in real terms of 19.8 percent, as a result of the January 1989 increase in the rates for local business and domestic long distance calls. Meanwhile, revenue from sales of alcoholic and other beverages experienced a marked decline.

Income from sales taxes increased 2.1 percent in real terms compared to the same period in 1988. Membership in the IMSS [Mexican Social Security Institute] also increased by 2.1 percent, which reflects a hike in employment.

Despite higher car sales, revenue in real terms from the tax on new cars dropped 4 percent, because tax rates were reduced across the board in January 1989.

Revenue from import taxes increased 1.6155 trillion pesos, with a growth in real terms of 67.7 percent over that obtained between January and June 1988. This growth is explained by an increase in import duty taxes, which rose from an average of 6.2 percent in 1988 to 9.9 percent this year.

Income from tariffs show a 20 percent drop in real terms from that obtained between January and June 1988, as a result of the modification of the Federal Tariff Law in January 1989.

Costa Rica

Commentary on Noriega's 'Threat' Against Radio

PA2109224789 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] General Manuel Antonio Noriega is furious at Radio Impacto, and he ordered the individual who serves as ambassador at the OAS [Jose Maria Cabrera] to make a veiled threat against us. The dictator's attorney said at the OAS meeting that Radio Impacto is waging a quote war over the radio unquote against the dictatorship.

The individual who is usurping the post of Panamanian ambassador at the OAS said that radio stations and newspapers had to be closed in his country to enforce the law; that is, the dictatorship's law. He obviously said nothing about jailed and beaten journalists who have been forced out of the country by force of clubs. This is the dictatorship's law.

The usurper of Panama's seat at the OAS ran down Radio Impacto. The truth is that this does not worry, bother, or even frighten us, because these threats are coming from a dictator who is repudiated by the people for having stolen the elections, and having gone against the people's will. You are complaining because we are gaining ground. That is our answer to the dictator.

The OAS plenary session opened yesterday. The individual who is usurping Panama's seat referred to Radio Impacto in the following manner:

[Begin Cabrera recording] Regretfully, Radio Impacto unleashed a criminal campaign against the fraternal people of Nicaragua, and it is now unleashing a similar campaign against Panama. We cannot overlook this. We will continue to denounce this electronics war, or war over the radio, as long as it persists. [end recording]

That is how Panama's illegal ambassador at the OAS ran down Radio Impacto. He said that he dislikes the fact that we are criticizing the dictatorship and defending peace, justice, and respect for the people's will from our trench. Noriega must not forget that Panama is not alone.

El Salvador

U.S. Advisers' Request for Information Reported

PA2109195289 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] We have in our possession a document that our fighters seized when they took over the Cacahuatique Battalion's command post at Cerro Los Mas in Chilanga, Morazan Department. The document was taken from the captain in command of the unit; it was drafted by U.S. advisers and sent to the Army officers—who must answer many questions on each Army patrol. The document reads as follows:

30 May 1989.
TO: Officers of Military Detachment No 4
FROM: Advisers.

1. We are trying to find ways to improve the information-gathering system and update the information files.

2. Each patrol sent out to the field returns with information that can be used in current and future decisionmaking.

3. We want your comments. Even though Spanish is not our native language, it is understood that some words must be written in the Salvadoran people's language.

This is the document sent to all the officers, who must answer dozens of questions upon returning from each patrol. The information includes [words indistinct] messages, directions, layout of the land, highest points, evaluation of the enemy's forces, number of guerrilla camps, location of the guerrilla camps, size of the guerrilla camps, signs showing when the camp was last used, personal evaluation of civilians, attitude toward the Salvadoran Armed Forces, [word indistinct] cooperation with the Armed Forces, drawings, etcetera.

In sum, a lengthy questionnaire was seized from the captain in command of the Cacahuatique Battalion [word indistinct]. The document reflects how much the Armed Forces depend on the U.S. advisers, because they have to report the smallest details of each patrol and each action. This proves that U.S. advisers make the decisions and conduct the war. There is no such thing as autonomy or national sovereignty. The United States gives the dollars and decides—as proven by the document found on the Cacahuatique Battalion commander's body—absolutely everything for the Armed Forces.

Referring to the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] government's dependence on the U.S. Government, General [Juan Rafael] Bustillo has personally revealed that he was not appointed defense minister by [Salvadoran President Alfredo] Cristiani, because the U.S. Embassy did not want Bustillo to be minister.

Then, we must ask: Where is the nationalism that ARENA and the military high command brag so much about? That is why we say that the achievement of true independence is one of our goals, and that the achievement of said independence is necessary to attain definite peace in El Salvador.

FMLN Commander Martinez Interviewed

PA2109190389 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0032 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Interview with Ana Guadalupe Martinez, commander of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Martinez] We believe that we must take into account that both the Salvadoran Government and the

Army currently have a great dilemma. The dark, repressive, and fascist groups must be trembling because peace is returning to El Salvador. Therefore, all of their actions will be designed to prevent peace from returning to our country. All of the events over the past few days, including the military parade on 15 September, were attempts to counter the people's action, which had been called by the permanent debate committee.

There was repression against FENASTRAS [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation] yesterday because they demanded the release of fellow workers who had been arrested. Their demonstration was violently dispersed, even a San Salvador Baptist Church was raided. Dozens of people were arrested.

There were also recent attempts to violate the unilateral cease-fire declared by the FMLN when the dialogue began in Mexico. We can make a long list of arrests, assassinations, and provocations on the war fronts, which clearly demonstrate that there are dark, fascist forces within the Army and the government that fear the word peace.

Therefore, we want to tell the Salvadoran people, who are surely following the situation that has resulted from the dialogue in Mexico, that this is a very special moment. We want to tell them that the FMLN will not give up the peace efforts we have initiated. However, we also want to tell all Salvadorans, including those dark forces, that the FMLN is also willing to defend all of the gains we have achieved and those achieved by the people's movement. The bloody, repressive incidents, which we have taken into account, cannot be overlooked by us or by the Salvadoran people. The international community cannot overlook these incidents either, because they have their eyes set on what is currently going on in El Salvador.

Therefore, we believe it is clear that a debate has currently been opened in the government, in the Army, and in other sectors. There have been no aggressive speeches, but there have been incidents such as we have talked about earlier. They are seeking a reaction by the FMLN because currently they do not want to appear to violate the agreements, they do not want to appear as fascists, which they are, but they want to make people believe that it is the FMLN that is violating the agreements that were signed for the benefit of the Salvadoran people.

A week ago, we made statements in which we said that we were going to suspend the sabotage of power service and of telephone lines, and that we were going to suspend the use of booby traps. On that occasion we also said that these gestures, which we believe were important, and which were dedicated to all Salvadorans who expect us to make a peace effort... [changes thought] We asked the Salvadoran Army and Government to adopt an attitude designed to seek detente that could allow for a rapprochement. On that occasion, we said that one of the things that concerned us most was the increase in repression [words indistinct] labor unions and the national university.

We would interpret it as a positive gesture if the government showed a willingness to stop arresting people, repressing demonstrations, and especially stop obstructing the labor union offices and the national university. We have found that the government has not done this. The opposite has been true. They have shown that they are not willing to create a climate of detente.

However, this cannot diminish the hopes of the Salvadoran people to achieve peace. We want to dedicate a message to the war maimed, who began, so to speak, all of the series of activities in which the FMLN has clearly shown that it is an organization working for the interests of the Salvadoran people.

The war maimed have given glory to the FMLN and have increased the morale of FMLN fighters. Internationally, the FMLN banner—posted at the entrance of the Cathedral in San Salvador—appeared in almost every newspaper in the world, showing how the government violates international treaties on the treatment of the war wounded.

We want to tell you, comrades, that all the victories in this period, and everything that was discussed in Mexico is precisely the continuation of activity that you started when you decided to become present in [words indistinct]

Finally, we want to tell the FMLN fighters that, at this moment, the eyes of the world and our people are placed on the FMLN. Now, more than ever, our weapons have become legitimate, because they have become arms that defend democracy, justice,—everything that has been denied to the people. It cannot be said that these weapons are useless or that they are silent. [words indistinct] so that the just nature of the proposals we made in Mexico, proposals we will continue to make.

[Unidentified reporter] A message to the popular movement in view of the ongoing repression in El Salvador?

[Martinez] The Mexico agreements should not become palliatives for the activities of the people's movement. The Mexico agreements were possible thanks to the effort of all of those in the people's movement—the church and all the forces that [words indistinct] at this moment when these dark forces, these fascist forces, are trying to prevent this movement from speaking up. Consequently, we must put a stop to it. This must be done with more mobilizations, statements, activities, and determination, because this is the only way to attain a lasting, firm, and just peace for our country.

Workers Brought to Trial; Government Scored

PA2209044789 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0308 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Report by Marco Antonio Guevara]

[Text] Today, 39 of the FENASTRAS [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation] demonstrators that were arrested on 18 September were sent to the First Penal Court of San Salvador to stand trial. The demonstrators, visibly beaten, were taken to the judge guarded by a large number of antiriot policemen.

[Begin Recording] [Unidentified woman] We are human beings and we feel the same as the policemen, but they do not [word indistinct] us there. We were treated worse than animals. This kind of treatment totally sickens a person. However, we never become demoralized because we know we have a just cause. We know that many of our organization companions have died for this same cause. In the case of [word indistinct] a female companion has disappeared; she was arrested by policemen and we have not heard anything about her yet. She was doing the same kind of work that I was doing. The government has made her disappear. [end recording]

[Being Recording] [Second unidentified woman] I was also raped. So tell me, who are the gentlemen that are supposed to take care of the people? Its not those men who held us. No, they are not the ones because they are the ones who repress the people [she is crying]. It should not be this way. [end recording]

The trial formalities took several hours because of the number of medical reports and legal statements presented to the court. In addition, the deadline for dismissing motions is next Sunday, 24 September, and the judge will have to make a decision on Friday, 22 Septmber—before the weekend—if these 39 people are to be detained or released.

Guatemala

Guerrillas Raid Village, Attack Bus; 5 Shot

PA2109151489 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE 19 Sep 89 pp 20, 55

[Text] Army spokesman Colonel Luis Arturo Isaacs Rodriguez reported that a guerrilla command entered a village, looted a store, and attacked a bus wounding several persons.

The source added that the guerrillas arrived at the village of El Pericon, Quiche and looted a store. They then ordered the driver of a bus to stop. Instead of stopping, the driver accelerated and the guerrillas opened fire, he said.

He reported that five persons were shot during the attack. The driver of the bus, feeling guilty for what had happened, stepped out in front of another bus, killing himself.

Commenting on the recent exodus to Mexico of peasants from San Marcos and other places of the southwest, Colonel Isaacs said that it is the result of pressure exerted by interested parties so that the peasants will discredit Guatemala abroad.

Kidnapped Student's Body Found in El Progress

PA2009203589 Paris AFP in Spanish 1713 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 20 Sep (AFP)—The body of a university student who was kidnapped in Guatemala City has just been found at the bottom of a ravine in El Progreso Department, it was reported today by official sources.

The student, kidnapped 10 days ago by armed men, was identified as 24-year-old Eduardo Antonio Palencia, who attended the Chemical Sciences and Pharmacy School at the San Carlos University in the capital.

Palencia's body, like the bodies of seven other students who were assassinated during this month of September, showed multiple mutilations, it was reported by the University Students Association [AEU].

The authorities found the tortured bodies of four students near the university campus on the same day that Palencia was kidnapped. The AEU said eight other students were kidnapped on 20 August and they are still reported missing.

Palencia's murder coincided with the arrival of Peter Kooijmans, special commissioner on torture cases for the UN Human Rights Commission, who was invited by the government.

Kooijmans met on Tuesday 19 September with leaders of the Mutual Support Group (GAM), relatives of missing people, Supreme Court of Justice President Edmundo Vasquez, and Defense Vice Minister General Raul Molina.

Nicaragua

Cuadra: Contras Want To Conceal Combatants

PA2109190189 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0142 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Managua, 18 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—The Sandinist People's Army [EPS] today charged that the Nicaraguan contras want to conceal 5,000 combatants in Honduras from the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV) so as to prevent their demobilization.

The five Central American presidents reached agreement in early August on the demobilization of approximately 12,000 contras living in Honduras. The demobilization is to take place under the supervision of the CIAV, which is headed by the OAS and UN secretaries general.

General Joaquin Cuadra, EPS chief of staff, today said the CIAV mission that visited Nicaragua last week was informed about the contras' plan to conceal their combatants.

The Sandinist general also charged that contra military leader Enrique Bermudez is planning to infiltrate an unspecified number of rebel forces into Nicaraguan

territory to intimidate the peasants so they will vote for the National Opposition Union (UNO).

UNO is a coalition of 14 parties with various ideologies which has nominated Violeta Chamorro, owner of the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA, as its presidential candidate.

"All these observations were made known to the CIAV mission so that it will not be deceived" by the rebel leaders, Cuadra said after meeting with a UN mission led by Brazilian General Pericles Ferreira.

According to the Sandinist officer, when the CIAV—which was created after the Tela, Honduras agreements to demobilize the contras prior to 8 December—arrives in the Honduran camps, the contras will hide 5,000 "elite troops" in the Honduran mountains.

Cuadra explained that rebel leader Enrique Bermudez will only turn over to the CIAV the children, women, elderly people, and war wounded, but not the real combatants. In this way the contras will "appear" to be complying with the agreeement.

The EPS chief of staff said the "Bermudez Plan" seeks "to take off the fat and keep the muscle," in reference to all the "noncombatant personnel" Bermudez wants to turn over to the mission.

The Sandinist general said U.S. President George Bush is behind this plan.

The high-ranking Nicaraguan military officer charged that the contras have intensified their attacks on civilian towns. He added that there are about 350 anti-Sandinists in Los Chiles, Costa Rica.

Bayardo Arce Says Poll Shows Ortega Leading

PA2109231989 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] It was reiterated today that public opinion polls continue to show that the people prefer Commander Daniel Ortega for presidential candidate. The polls show that Vice President Sergio Martinez and Commander Tomas Borge—in that order—follow Daniel Ortega in popularity.

The information on the polls was released by Commander Bayardo Arce after a meeting with Heiner Geissler, secretary general of the FRG Christian Democratic Union.

Commander Arce stated that the Nicaraguan Government and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] have maintained a dialogue with the country's political parties and that a new national dialogue has not been planned. He said that the Nicaraguan extreme-right parties are demanding a new national dialogue to use as election propaganda.

Arce also said that the meeting with the FRG delegation was cordial.

[Begin Arce recording] The fact that Mr Geissler and I met today as we have met on previous occasions is a simple example of the FSLN's ample and pluralist policy. We meet with everybody here. We have cordial relations with Christian Democrats, conservatives, and liberals throughout the world. As you know, we agree with them on some aspects and disagree on others. [end recording]

Violeta Chamorro Views Election Prospects

PM2209093489 Madrid ABC in Spanish 8 Sep 89 pp 56-57

[Interview with National Opposition Union presidential candidate Violeta Chamorro by Enrique Serbeto by telephone; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Serbeto] Following your designation as a candidate, one of the first pieces of advice you gave the Nicaraguan people is that in order to defeat the Sandinists, it is necessary to lose fear. What do you mean by this expression?
[Chamorro] Losing fear means forgetting the past—Somoza and the Sandinists—since they are both dictatorships which have marked this country. And in order for us to have a democracy in Nicaragua, it is necessary to lose fear, go and vote, and enroll in order to ensure that real democracy is established in Nicaragua. Above all, it is necessary to show quite clearly that we wish to be free, to live in a democracy in which you can choose freely and in which voting is completely free—as it was within the National Opposition Union (UNO) coalition in order to choose my candidacy.

[Serbeto] In your opinion, what would be the conditions for the elections which have been called for next February to be truly democratic?
[Chamorro] Of course many conditions must exist for the February elections to be really free, but the first is that there be an opportunity for the Nicaraguans to enroll, in order to be able to take part in the elections.

Above all, on the part of the Sandinist government, President Ortega must keep all the promises which he made on paper at the Esquipulas meetings, beginning with a real amnesty to enable all citizens who are far from their homes to return. We also want the public radio and television networks to be free and not to remain controlled by the state apparatus or by any party.

[Serbeto] Significantly, you do not belong to any political party but you have been chosen by 14 parties to represent the opposition candidacy. How do you explain this?
[Chamorro] Yes, it is true: I have never belonged to any party; I was Pedro Joaquin Chamorro's wife. But anybody who has a little love of their country will always be prepared, as I am now, to do their bit toward seeking what is best for their country.

[Serbeto] And what does the memory of your husband mean for you right now? Is it a heavy burden to bear?

[Chamorro] Just imagine: Every time I speak, I become agitated, but the memory of him gives me strength, and I feel that he is saying to me: "Do it, do it, do it." I am also certain that it is what he would have liked most, because he died at the age of 56, killed by Somoza's dictatorship, and he had not yet seen free elections in his country. That is why I intend with all my might to make his dream of a democratic Nicaragua a reality.

They Betrayed Us

[Serbeto] But it is a far from negligible fact that you are going to confront such a powerful and monolithic party as the Sandinist Front without belonging to any party—and with hardly any experience in political life.
[Chamorro] I am not afraid of them—in the first place, because I am not afraid of anybody; I am in God's hands. Second, because back in 1979 I backed the Sandinist Front after the victory of the revolution, and I know them thoroughly. What happened was that they betrayed us, betrayed their promises, and we left them. But, moreover, even though I do not belong to any political party, I have attended what could be called the "university of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro," who taught me to love freedom and democracy.

[Serbeto] Do you sincerely believe that if you win the elections, a state subordinate to the party's wishes, in which the Army is not the Nicaraguan Army but the Sandinist army, will hand power over to you without further ado?
[Chamorro] Look, these elections have already been won. We cannot lose them. And there are all the international observers and cooperation from Spain, which I believe has sent many computers to count the votes, to ensure that the outcome is respected. But, of course, the handing over of power will be the main test of whether the elections were or were not truly free and democratic. We will see 25 February whether the promises of democratization are sincere or a fraud in the face of the whole world, which is watching our process.

But I also said some time ago that, as soon as we win, all the weapons will go to a museum and the troops will go to university. We will return all those weapons which we have now and which we do not need to the socialist countries which brought them. What we need now is medicines, machines, and food, because the people are now in a state in which they do not even have anything to eat.

I Admire Corazon Aquino

[Serbeto] With that optimism you are becoming like Corazon Aquino in the Philippines.
[Chamorro] Curiously enough, many people have compared me with that estimable lady, and I am very sorry that I do not know her personally. Despite that, I have read many things about her and have even seen a documentary about her life—it moved me because we have many things in common and it reminds me a great deal of my own life. But I also know that anybody would do the same for their country as she did, because everything is learned in life.

[Serbeto] Another of the things which you often mention in your statements is the need for forgiveness. Do you believe that that is possible after so much warfare, bloodshed, and bitterness?

[Chamorro] Of course it is. Moreover, this is not something that I am saying now but something that I have always said. When they "lifted the penalty" on LA PRENSA and allowed us to publish the newspaper again after an indefinite suspension, a journalist from a government media organ asked me: "How can you speak of forgiveness when it is a matter of releasing your husband's killers?" I told her that I was thinking not of myself but of my country, which needs reconciliation and peace. All that I would like to know about my husband's murder is how it happened, because after so long we still do not know who killed him—only that it was a few gunmen—but I do not know how it happened or who the culprits are. And that, I believe, is human. Anybody in my place would wish to know this.

We Will Win

[Serbeto] What are your foremost aims, your government program, in case you win these elections?

[Chamorro] We will win, with God's help. Of that you may be sure. But afterward, as you will understand, I will govern the country not as a dictator, because nothing would have to be changed for that, but as a democracy. We have 14 parties which will take part in the government's decisions and which will be heeded. As a first step we will proclaim a total and unlimited amnesty to facilitate national reconciliation. Afterward we will urgently need the assistance of Spain, the EC, and all the democratic nations in the world in order to support democracy and the rule of freedom here.

Honduran Red Cross Official Deported to Nicaragua

PA2109124989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1214 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Honduran Red Cross official Antonio Sinclair, originally from Cabo Gracias a Dios, Honduras, was deported on Wednesday [20 September] to Nicaragua by the Honduran immigration authorities. Sinclair, who was responsible for inspecting the laboratories at the Miskito and Salvadoran refugee camps in Honduras, charged that for 12 days —until it was decided to deport him—the immigration authorities subjected him to torture. The Honduran Red Cross official said that Ninth Battalion soldiers ordered him to return to Nicaragua because he was suspected of being a spy, that his life was in danger, and that only the Honduran people could guarantee [words indistinct].

Political Prisoners Said Taken to Secret Jails

PA2109124689 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The Nicaraguan 22 January Movement of Mothers of Political Prisoners reported today that political prisoners are being transferred to clandestine jails.

A letter to the public issued by the political prisoners of the Tipitapa Modelo Prison and circulated by the 22 January Movement of Mothers of Political Prisoners states that for political reasons 60 prisoners are being transferred from the Tipitapa Prison to clandestine jails. The prisoners themselves state that the inmates of Section 6 of the Tipitapa Prison are being sent to a jail, known as the kennel, located near the free zone, where they are locked in with the dogs that guard the jail.

The prisoners also state that they were not allowed to talk with the International Red Cross delegates who visited the prison, since the delegates were only taken to a section where there are prisoners that the authorities can trust.

The prisoners taken to clandestine jails include Abram Naine Soriano, Ramon Lopez Toruno, Jose Luis Lopez Santana, Oscar Timoteo Miranda Goya, Bernardo Joaquin Miranda, Jose Garcia Castro, Anastacio Guzman, Luis Alberto Avalos, and Jose Ancelmo Martinez, among others.

Health Cooperation Accord Signed With Honduras

PA2209034989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] The health ministers of Honduras and Nicaragua, Dora Maria Tellez and Ramon Villeda, have signed a health cooperation agreement. The document is designed to contribute to improving health in both countries, to strengthening local health programs in the struggle against tropical diseases, and to promoting the people's participation in the execution of the program.

The implementation of the program, which will be financed by Finland and Sweden, also contemplates the development of cooperation to attend to the refugees and repatriated persons. During the signing ceremony of the agreement, which was also attended by the director of the Pan-American Health Organization, Carlisle Guerra de Macedo, Dr Dora Maria Tellez said that the agreement strengthens ties between the people of Honduras and Nicaragua and contributes to regional peace, which was promoted by the Central American presidents during their last meeting in Tela, Honduras.

For his part, the Honduran minister said that the Central American countries ratified the understanding among the people in regard to health, where borders are continuous. One cannot speak of health without speaking of peace, he said.

Guerra de Macedo said that his organization is particularly interested in seeing that the two countries give attention to the refugees and support the demobilization and repatriation of the contras, so that they can voluntarily and peacefully rejoin activities in Nicaragua.

Panama

Reportage on U.S. Actions Against Country

Embassy: Expanded 'Blacklist'

PA2109190089 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1702 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] In Panama, the U.S. Treasury Department has published a blacklist of 14 enterprises and private individuals—allegedly linked with Cuba—with which U.S. companies cannot have relations. The list is made up of 13 firms, including Transit Incorporated.

According to U.S. law, people who are under U.S. jurisdiction cannot make any transactions with those included on the list, who are classified as Cuban nationals.

The blacklist announced by the U.S. Embassy in Panama is an addendum to a previous list of firms released in Washington on 10 December 1986. The number of Panamanian firms identified by the United States as firms of Cuban nationals because of their alleged relations with the Fidel Castro regime surpass 130, including the 14 names released today.

The publication of blacklists of Panamanian businesses and businessmen who have relations with the current Panamanian regime or with Cuba is part of a group of measures implemented by Washington to promote the ouster of General Noriega, the current Panamanian strongman who is the chief of the Panama Defense Forces.

Commercial Ties Prohibited

PA2109190989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1750 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Panama City, 21 Sep (DPA)—The U.S. Embassy in Panama today released a list of Panamanian businesses and people headed by former pro-government presidential candidate Carlos Duque Jaen, accused of violating the U.S. commercial blockade against Cuba.

According to an embassy bulletin, the list of 14 enterprises was included in the U.S. Treasury Department's Federal Registry and it was demanded that all U.S. nationals "take the necessary measures" to prevent becoming involved with these companies.

In addition to Duque, among others, the list includes: Facobata, Guacaxport, Interconsult, Fruni Trading Company, International Petroleum, Ipesco, Kave, Lakshami, Marine Registration, Piramide International,

Turst Import-Export, and Transic Incorporated, a sort of Panamanian Government customs agent operating in the Colon Free Zone.

With this action, the United States has increased the list of names of Panamanian firms that maintain commercial relations with Cuba, a list that was drafted for the first time in 1986.

'Rumors' of U.S. Bank Actions

PA2109231589 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 2200 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Report by Maribel del Carmen Saldana]

[Text] In commenting about U.S. sanctions against Panama that might include demands on the involvement of U.S. banks operating in our country, Edgardo Lasso Valdes, president of Panama's Banking Association, has said:

[Begin Lasso recording] Among the U.S. sanctions against Panama there are plans to force, demand, or order U.S. banks operating in Panama to adopt certain actions against [words indistinct] of various clients.

As of now, we have not been able to confirm this. We do not know if this a mere rumor or whether there is some truth to this. As for us, as long as we do not see reliable evidence to this effect, we will not give credit to rumors.

I will say that we would be surprised should this rumor turn out to be true, because any banking measures of this sort could provoke sanctions from Panamanian banking authorities. Banks operating in Panama, regardless of their country of origin, must fully abide by Panamanian banking laws because these laws are the ones that allowed such banks to establish themselves here.

Foreign banks operating in Panama have made great economic contributions to the country and make up a large majority of the 110 banks operating in Panama. Their presence gives Panama importance in the world as a banking center.

We are reasonably sure that this is nothing more than a simple rumor because, as I said, all banks must abide by Panamanian banking law. Thus, it would be inappropriate for a foreign government such as that of the United States or any other country to issue specific instructions to banks of their country operating here to adopt certain actions against clients that run counter to the law that has allowed them to operate here. [end recording]

The Banking Association president pointed out that the goal should be to maintain the banking center in Panama and not destroy it because of the failure to find a political solution to the crisis:

[Begin Lasso recording] When there is political instability, people harbor great doubts whether the government will to some extent be forced for whatever reason to make certain amendments to the law. This uneasiness over what could happen is what we call lack of trust. There is lack of confidence, but not because people like or dislike the current rulers. There is a lack of confidence because there are doubts about what could happen in the country. People are wondering whether the government will make certain amendments to the law. This lack of trust is keeping the banking industry from operating normally.

This means that we are not receiving the foreign and local deposits that we once did. As a result, we are unable to lend money to generate dynamism in the country's economy. We have insisted that the political crisis must be solved in order to normalize banking activity. [end recording]

Noriega Interviewed on Relations With U. S.

PA2109151689 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0055 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Panama City, 20 Sep (DPA)—General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panama Defense Forces, said that his country "cannot let the United States turn Panama into another Puerto Rico or Honduras so that it becomes an instrument of the U.S. policy in Central America."

During an interview published today by the magazine DIALOGO SOCIAL, Noriega said that even though Panama is a small and modest country, it deserves the respect of the United States as a state and nation. The United States "should leave us alone; it should stop screwing us," Noriega added.

He said that "a respectful and dignified solution can be achieved" to reach an agreement for overcoming the crisis that prevails in the relations between the two countries, in that Washington should "cancel the measures for economic, political, and propaganda aggression against Panama."

Noriega also said that the United States must spend approximately $1 billion to transfer its electronic surveillance installations in Galeta Island, located on Panama's Atlantic coast; thus complicating the U. S. plans "to maintain its bases in this country beyond 2000," when—according to the Panama Canal treaties—the U.S. military presence in Panama should end. Galeta Island has ecological characteristics that allow low frequency underwater transmissions.

The high-ranking officer said President George Bush admitted that he had contributed $10 million to the Panamanian opposition's election campaign, "because it was more convenient for him to admit the smaller amount and hide" the real amount, approximately $100 million.

According to Noriega, the official candidates "would have won the annulled 7 May elections with 55 percent of the votes against the opposition's 49 percent [ratio as

received]," despite U. S. support. The opposition, however, claims it won the elections 3-1.

Vice President Ozores Comments on EC Decision

PA2109232989 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 2219 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Panamanian Vice President Carlos Ozores Typaldos has said that the EC's decision for suspending high-level contacts with the Panamanian Government came as no surprise.

The EC announced on 20 September that it suspended its high-level contacts with Panama due to the new government's lack of institutional legitimacy following the appointment of Francisco Rodriguez by a General State Council on 31 August.

The State Council is made up of the president, cabinet members, directors of autonomous and semi-autonomous agencies, and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panama Defense Forces, who participated in today's meeting but refused the press any statements.

After attending a State Council meeting—the first one after Rodriguez' appointment—Ozores Typaldos said he hopes that as time goes by and internal corrections are made the EC will change its position.

Yesterday, the EC announced in France—which currently heads the EC Council of Ministers—that there will only be contacts to convey to Panamanian authorities the decision reached by that group of 12 countries and for sessions related to human rights and to the protection of foreign communities. The measure includes not attending official ceremonies organized in Panama, intensifying relations with the opposition, rejecting any commitment that would mean supporting the Panamanian Government in international organizations, and suspending international technical cooperation programs.

The General State Council met today to elect authorities for the state's smallest political unit, known as a corregimiento. This was the first State Council meeting since its members appointed Francisco Rodriguez as provisional president, which made the council the government's most important consultative body.

The corregimiento representatives—a total of 510—played an important role during the late Omar Torrijos' government. The Panamanian Political Constitution was amended in 1972, giving Torrijos ample legislative and executive powers, among other things.

The General State Council has not yet appointed the 41 new members of the Panamanian parliament as it promised to do on 31 August when Rodriguez was appointed. The parliament was dissolved on 1 September, when legislators elected in 1984 completed their period. There were no replacements due to the annulment of the 7 May elections.

Column Views Status of Relations With U.S.

PA2109185989 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Sep 89 p 5

[Mario Augusto Rodriguez column: "Break in Relations"]

[Text] 1. Information:

Although news reports from Washington have repeatedly asserted that President Bush "broke off diplomatic relations" with Rodriguez' provisional government in Panama, I have not obtained full confirmation of the report. It seems—at least publicly and officially—that that government does not maintain any diplomatic contacts with the current Panamanian authorities. It is also true that there is no Panamanian ambassador accredited to the White House. The remnants of the U.S. diplomatic mission who still occupy the embassy building on Balboa Avenue and those residing in La Cresta have not been withdrawn, however. No U.S. Government property has been vacated and no foreign embassy has been asked to assume custody of the relevant installations. The situation apparently remains the same as it was before the establishment of the provisional government.

2. Difficulty:

Normally, when a government severs relations with another, it does so by serving official notice to the latter's diplomatic representatives, Foreign Ministry, or head of state. However, if President Bush ever did so, this would imply that he recognizes the government, which in this case he says he does not. He could not "sever relations" with Panama while recognizing Delvalle as the legitimate president. If he officially recognizes Guillermo Endara as Panama's "legitimate president" now, the break would not be in order either. It would be interesting if some specialist on the subject defined in appropriate language what the current status of Panamanian-U.S. relations is, or say if they are nonexistent.

3. Withdrawal:

I have the impression that Bush really has no intention of breaking relations with the provisional government. If he did, he would have to withdraw from Panama not only the personnel who are officially accredited here, but the other invisible or disguised personnel who continue to operate in Panamanian territory. My impression is that these personnel, who have not been officially identified, are most important under the current circumstances. For purposes of the interventionist and aggressive strategy the U.S. superpower is pursuing against Panama—on which it has declared war—being able to count on specialists probably trained by the CIA, the FBI, or some other similar organization should be highly valuable. The remnants of the embassy are the best possible cover and protection on whom that personnel can count to carry out their plans and programs against Panama.

4. Discredit

It is true that the U.S. secret, intelligence, and espionage services are not particularly known for their efficiency. The media, literature, and cinema in the United States and other countries are oversaturated with criticism—even mockery and scorn against them. Those who have investigated them—including the Senate and Congress—insist that these services never have the proper knowledge of situations or properly evaluate them, and, in an overwhelming number of cases, lead the U.S. Government to make grievous mistakes. This explains why the White House's actions on Panama are so hard to understand, even for the U.S. public.

Today's thought:
There are never pointless events, no matter how cruelly wrong they may be.—Maeterlinck

FENASEP Leader Regrets Government Policy

PA2109125289 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 20 Sep 89 pp A-1, B-2

[By James Aparicio of the editor's office]

[Text] Hector Aleman, secretary general of the National Federation of Associations of Public Employees [FENASEP], said yesterday that "Panamanian society" is keeping a "wait-and-see attitude" concerning the changes promised by the provisional government of Francisco Rodriguez. However, he regretted the "policy of hesitation and surprise" implemented with regard to the government bureaucracy.

Aleman asked ministers and top government officials to discuss with FENASEP the delays in paying employee salaries, and warned that "no one seems willing to hit the nail on the head" on the readjustments proposed by the General Comptroller's Office.

"We hear so many things, but no one is tackling the problem of the government's liquidity or dares to sit down with us," Aleman said. He added that although President Rodriguez denied possible personnel reductions or new systems to pay salaries, "the trend seems to be to pay us once a month without even telling us."

Aleman explained rumors that public employees will get paid only once a month, salaries will be reduced, or that they will only receive $75 in cash or check, have created "tension, fear, and confusion," among those employees.

The leader of FENASEP, which marks its fifth anniversary this week, said that the labor movement expects the Rodriguez administration "will be able to put his words into practice" to end corruption, transnational political and economic projects, cronyism, and improvisation.

Aleman added that FENASEP has proposals to make on the government's adjustment plans, which he feels must not be based on the reduction of a public force of 125,000 employees.

"If politics prevails and if measures are implemented by surprise without consultations, things will get complicated," Aleman said to announce that FENASEP will adopt a "militant attitude."

PALA Leaders Deny Rift With Government, PRD

PA2109215489 Panama City Radio Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Report by Maribel del Carmen Saldana]

[Text] Ramon Sieiro, general secretary of the Labor Party [PALA], has warned: We must talk, we still have time. Sieiro made some statements after the appointment of President Francisco Rodriguez and had not been seen in public events since then.

Sieiro denied that he has any disagreements with the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] and noted that the only PALA objective is to offer its views on overcoming the crisis.

He added that PALA will continue fighting for political respect, tolerance, a true social justice which must be the goal of any true democracy, and the compliance of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

Sieiro spoke at an event for PALA members who held public posts up to 30 July 1989:

[Begin Sieiro recording] For some time, PALA has been promoting talks, which is merely a reaffirmation of our principles: national reconciliation and understanding, as well as peace, a peace that will allow Panamanians—whether we agree or disagree politically—to settle our problems in a civilized way. We must do this with respect, moderation, and wisdom. This desire for a dialogue, and PALA's wisdom, respect, and moderation in facing the current situation irritates extremist and radical sectors. However, we urge these sectors to ponder our problems so that they can help the fatherland.

We will continue to work for democracy, social justice, and national liberation despite the efforts of those who, moved by intolerance, radicalism, and sectarianism, begin their tirade of insults. We will continue along our path, with our own PALA style and language, but without sowing hatred or division among Panamanians. [end recording]

At a news conference, Sieiro explained that he was absent from public events because he was busy visiting friends and devoting his time to private business matters.

[Begin recording] [Sieiro] I was involved in my usual activities: visiting friends and devoting my time to private business matters. We cannot be in the limelight everyday.

Today's event was very important. We acknowledged all distinguished party members who held important posts in the government which ended on 31 August.

[Reporter] What are your relations with the current government headed by Francisco Rodriguez?

[Sieiro] They are very good. I personally believe that we have an excellent president. I think that President Rodriguez needs the support of all Panamanians to cope with his great responsibility. He is an honest man. He is a great professional and we fully support him. [end recording]

Regarding remarks by a group of party members who called for a change in PALA leaders, PALA President Juan Medrano said:

[Begin recording] [Medrano] I think that motion has no backing within the party. That was an isolated expression by a person who represents no one within the party. The party will continue to work as it has done so far. Our party principles provide a very clear orientation. The path we have outlined cannot be changed by isolated events. We will continue working for this country as we have done so far: enthusiastically, seriously, and responsibly.

[Reporter] Do you think that the disagreements with the PRD still exist?

[Medrano] We truly do not have any disagreements with any parties. All we want to do is offer our truth and have that truth be taken into account, along with other parties' truth. However, it is not true that we are feuding with any political organization. [end recording]

Opposition Leaders To Begin Diplomatic Offensive

PA2109125089 Paris AFP in Spanish 0620 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Panama City, 19 Sep (AFP)—The Panamanian Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADOC) has announced that on 20 September it will begin a new "diplomatic offensive" in the Caribbean, Europe, and the United States seeking the recognition of the annulled 7 May elections.

Guillermo Ford, former ADOC second vice presidential candidate, said that he will leave for Jamaica on 20 September and will then go on to the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, and the United States to ask the presidents of those nations to recognize ADOC's triumph in the May elections and to demand the withdrawal of General Manuel Antonio Noriega from the Panama Defense Forces.

Ford said that similarly Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Panamanian opposition Christian Democratic Party, will visit the FRG, France, Canada, Sweden, and the United States.

Both opposition leaders conducted a similar offensive in Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela a month ago.

Argentina

Cavallo on Relations With U.S., Debt, Drugs

PY2209013689 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2007 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Cordoba, 21 Sep (NA)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has said that "Argentina is pursuing a constructive and honest dialogue with the United States, but this dialogue should not be interpreted as an alignment or a strategic alliance."

Cavallo made these remarks on the "First Page" program of Cordoba's Radio Universidad. The foreign minister stressed the importance of President Carlos Menem's upcoming meeting with his U.S. counterpart George Bush.

"We are working on close relations with the United States," Cavallo said, adding that "we understand that the world is moving toward a continental conception of international problems."

Cavallo ratified the Argentine Government decision to pay the foreign debt "while giving priority to growth in order to fulfill our commitments."

Cavallo said "we could possibly reach agreements with the IMF, World Bank, and international creditors in general" and stressed that "the amendments introduced to the law on foreign investment have been received with satisfaction, and our decision on the problem of double taxation is eagerly awaited."

Cavallo concluded by saying that "Argentina is willing to cooperate in the international campaign against drug trafficking, and when we meet with Bush we will seek concrete ways to make that cooperation a reality."

Cavallo Meeting With UK Representative Planned

PY2109175189 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1710 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Sep (NA)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo announced at noon today that, on 27 September, he will meet alone with his British colleague, John Major, in the Crystal Palace of the United Nations to evaluate the negotiations toward reestablishing diplomatic relations.

During a news conference in the San Martin Palace, Cavallo termed as "very interesting" the proposal that the British will make during the 17-18 October Madrid meeting. The proposal suggests negotiating a status for the Malvinas Islands similar to the agreement on Hong Kong between Great Britain and the PRC.

New Narcotics Bill Approved After Modifications

PY2109173689 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpt] The Senate approved the bill on narcotics early this morning, thus transforming it into the Law on Narcotics.

The new law punishes drug consumers and drug traffickers, who can now be sentenced to prison terms ranging from 8 to 20 years.

The Senate accepted the modifications proposed by the Chamber of Deputies rejecting the original bill that reduced sentences and, in some cases, pardoned those who supplied data on drug traffickers' activities.

The new law also establishes stricter sentences for those who sell drugs to people under 18 years of age, uses them in trafficking activities, or resorts to violence, intimidation, or deceit. [passage omitted]

Former President Alfonsin Returns From Nicaragua

PY2109230789 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Sep 89 p 7

[Excerpt] Former Argentine President Raul Alfonsin returned from Nicaragua on 20 September after carrying out "very encouraging" negotiations. These negotiations were related to his role as an observer in the electoral process, which is developing in "a very favorable atmosphere," sources close to the Radical Civic Union leader said. [passage omitted]

Roger Installed as New Prosecutor General

PY2109161689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1519 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Sep (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem presided over the ceremony during which Education Minister Antonio Salonia administered the oath to new Argentine Attorney General Oscar Eduardo Roger.

The ceremony was held at about noon in the Southern Hall of Government House. Ministers and secretaries of state were present at the ceremony.

Army Chief of Staff Returns From Chile

PY2109153689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1509 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Sep (TELAM)—According to Army sources, Army Chief of Staff General Isidro Bonifacio Caceres has fallen ill with gastroenteritis and will not go to his office today.

Caceres returned to Buenos Aires last night from Santiago, Chile, where he participated as a special guest in independence day celebrations and other ceremonies that were held in that country.

Caceres visited the Central Military Hospital before returning home. He will rest, attended by an Army doctor.

Important Arsenal Discovered in Buenos Aires

PY2109150689 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1318 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] La Plata, 21 Sep (NA)—During a raid on an abandoned factory in the Buenos Aires district of General Rodriguez, the Buenos Aires police have discovered an important arsenal which includes rockets, projectile heads, and gunpowder.

According to police sources, the operation was carried out at a plant that belongs to the Venturini Company, on Jose Marmol and Guido Spano Streets in the Fraternidad neighborhood of that district.

The arsenal is similar to those found at the end of last year by San Isidro Federal Judge Alberto Piotti in several localities of the northern zone of Greater Buenos Aires. The origin of these arsenals has not yet been estalished.

In this factory, which was closed 2 years ago, the police found a Mosqueta [not further identified] type "Albatros" rocket, hollow 54-mm "aspic" type rocket heads, a 25-pound practice bomb [bomba de practica], the remains of several bombs, a bucket-full of aluminized gunpowder, detonators, fuses, and other pyrotechnic elements.

The Armed Forces Technological Research Center reportedly also participated in the operation.

The plant covers 2,000 square meters and cannot be seen from the road because of the surrounding terrain.

Bolivia

President Paz' International Agenda Disclosed

PY2109175589 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] President Jaime Paz Zamora is scheduled to attend several presidential meetings seeking bilateral and regional integration. Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde has stated that Paz Zamora has established the dates for these important meetings.

Foreign Minister Iturralde reported that Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez will visit Bolivia from 14-16 October, heading a high-ranking government mission.

He added that on 17-18 October, President Jaime Paz Zamora and Peruvian President Alan Garcia will meet at Lake Titicaca. It was reported that the Bolivian and Peruvian foreign ministers are finalizing the details of this meeting during which the two presidents will sign important bilateral agreements.

In November, President Jaime Paz Zamora is scheduled to travel to the Galapagos Islands where he will attend the Andean presidents summit. According to Foreign Minister Iturralde the Andean presidential summit will strengthen ties between Andean countries through the signing of integration agreements, which will be essential for the adoption of a new regional trade policy and the implementation of the amendment agreement signed in Ecuador.

Foreign Minister Iturralde added that Jaime Paz Zamora will travel to Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he will meet with Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem. The foreign minister reported that no date has yet been established for this meeting during which the two presidents will strengthen bilateral ties.

Iturralde added that President Jaime Paz Zamora is now drafting the speech he will deliver at the UN General Assembly meeting. He said that in his speech, President Paz will discuss international policy issues. Iturralde reported that during his stay in New York, President Paz will also meet with presidents from several countries.

Iturralde stated that President Paz will meet with U.S. President George Bush, who will attend the UN Assembly. Paz and Bush will hold a meeting during which they will discuss the eradication of drug trafficking.

To Launch Antidrug 'Offensive'

PY2209015689 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] It is time for us Bolivians to take the initiative, to go on the offensive, and to make our own proposals to the international community regarding the drug trafficking problem. It is time for us to show the world that Bolivia wants to fight drug trafficking the Bolivian way, with our own personality.

President Jaime Paz Zamora made these remarks in explaining the position he will take at the 44th UN General Assembly on 28 September.

President Paz told reporters that the government will launch a great international offensive to face the problem of drug trafficking. One of our mistakes was to accept the initiatives of other countries without complaints, Paz said.

Paz Zamora said he will meet with U.S. President George Bush at 1700 on 25 September. The two presidents will obviously discuss drug trafficking and other problems of bilateral interest.

We do not want Bolivia to be identified with drug trafficking, because there are many other problems in the international community that must be analyzed at the UN General Assembly, Paz said.

Paz said that the first topic in his speech at the United Nations will be Bolivia's cultural and historic heritage. Paz noted that he will later talk about Bolivia's problems.

Regarding the possibility of Bolivia asking the U.S. Government for troops to fight drug trafficking, Paz Zamora stressed that all subjects concerning foreign troops, regardless of where they come from, will have to be dealt with in accordance with the Constitution.

For the time being I see no need for foreign troops in our country, Paz Zamora said, stressing that Bolivia needs more foreign economic cooperation from the international community.

Paz Zamora reported that on 8 or 9 October, in concert with his colleagues from Colombia and Peru, he will decide on a date for a presidential meeting to analyze the Bennett plan. Paz said that the foreign ministers of the three countries are making the arrangements and working on the agenda of the meeting.

Advances Departure for U.S.

PY2109143889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] President Jaime Paz Zamora has decided to advance the date of his departure for the United States, where he will attend the UN General Assembly. Congress will meet today to discuss this presidential request. President Paz has decided to travel to the United Nations on 24 September.

Unidentified sources have reported that by going early to the United Nations Paz Zamora will be able to with other chiefs of state who will also be attending the UN General Assembly.

Capobianco Names Leader of Antidrug Forces

Retired General To Lead Struggle

PY2209021789 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco this morning installed General Lucio Anez, retired, as the new commander of the special forces against drug trafficking.

Capobianco said that the appointment of the new official is part of the process of reorganizing the offices in charge of combating drug trafficking.

Capobianco said that the measures being implemented by the new government administration are aimed at reorganizing and restoring the morale of those organizations and that this is why new officials are being appointed.

Capobianco said that the newly-appointed commander should be firm in making the organizations more effective and in preventing the duplication of efforts.

The new commander thanked the officials for his appointment and commented briefly on his task:

[Begin Anez recording] First of all, I would like to thank the government for its confidence in me. We must put together all our efforts and honesty fulfill the goals set by the government of national unity. I am more than willing to fulfill my duties, as I said I would honor my military career and my country 37 years ago in the Military Academy. We are going to fight this scourge, which is affecting not only the countries of this hemisphere but also [words indistinct]. We are certain that we will have the government's support. This morning I talked [words indistinct] and I received great support.

I believe that by carrying out joint actions with the Armed Forces we can find a way to defeat this scourge. [end recording]

Capobianco said that new officials will be appointed in the next few days for the units operating against drug traffickers in Los Yungas, Chapre, Beni, and Santa Cruz.

Discusses Reorganization

PY2209040989 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 17 Sep 89 p 7

[Text] According to Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco, the Bolivian Government has announced that it will maintain a clear dialogue with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the National Bureau of Narcotics (NAU) [Oficina de Asesoramiento de Narcoticos] on the subject of restructuring Bolivia's antidrug institutions.

According to reports submitted by the Social Defense Undersecretariat during the previous administration, there were about 40 DEA agents, a few NAU agents, and a group of U.S. Coast Guard advisers in Bolivia.

Capobianco added that the plan to reestructure antidrug institutions will also allow the enforcement of Law 1008 on the "Regulation of Coca and Dangerous Substances," which could not be fully implemented during the previous administration. Capobianco said: "The government has confirmed that a lack of coordination and ineffective measures has obstructed the antidrug struggle, a widespread social scourge, and the government has decided to draft a national strategy to combat drug trafficking."

Capobianco has submitted a plan that promotes a clear dialogue with the DEA and other U.S. advisory organizations. It also proposes the continuation of the National Council Against Drug Abuse and Illegal Drug Trafficking (CONALID), which will act as a regulatory body. The CONALID will be headed by the foreign minister and will include several Cabinet members.

Within this new antidrug structure, the Permanent Executive Coordination an Operational Council [Consejo Permanente of Coordinacion Ejecutiva y Operativa] will be directed by the CONALID. His Executive Council

may also be headed by the foreign minister, who will be the leading government representative in the antidrug struggle at the international level. Capobianco added: "The ministers of the interior, public health, an agriculture and campesino affairs will be members of this council."

A new National Executive Directorate (DEN) "will plan, draft, and promote all plans and programs dealing with alternative development and drug prevention and eradication programs."

According to the minister's proposal, the DEN will be headed "by an experienced businessman who works with efficient personnel and, if possible, in a sound and well-established economic situation; a man with an irreproachable record regarding his wealth and the way in which it was obtained."

According to the minister, the DEN should operate with businesslike efficiency and should not get too involved in politics: "We need to be able to produce serious proposals. Our country's problem in our struggle against drug trafficking has been our apparent inability to issue specific proposals for alternative development and to create a sense of credibility and trustworthiness in the international community," Capobianco said.

"For now we have a profile of a possible director. On 19 September the commissions will submit a draft of the directorate's organization."

The minister said that there have been proposals to create a National Development Fund (FONARAL) to administer the resources allotted to the fight against drug trafficking, the replacement of coca plantations, and prevention programs. The creation of such a fund has already been proposed by Law 1008.

"I think of FONARAL as an instrument giving financial support to the fight against drug trafficking by supporting the DEN and the Permanent Coordination Council," Capobianco said.

Capobianco's plan includes a proposal to raise the National Prevention Council to the undersecretariat level.

The institutions in charge of the fight against drug trafficking are being reorganized to get full and efficient use out of the $50 to $60 million allocated in a single fiscal year to combat the illicit trade. The funds will include U.S. aid from the Bennett plan and what is left over for this purpose from the past administration.

According to Capobianco, Bolivia will receive a total of $97.5 million in fiscal year 1990-91 from the Bennett plan, with 68 percent of it to be used in interdiction.

The breakdown of this assistance is as follows: $40 million is allocated to military aid; $30.8 million to alternative development programs; $22.3 million to interdiction programs; and $3.5 million is allocated to intelligence. [all figures as published]

Foreign Minister Comments on Drug Offensive

PY2109141989 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde has reported that the National Antidrug Council will continue to be the top organization in the struggle against drug trafficking.

Iturralde said that antidrug struggle institutions will be more effective following their reorganization. He added that the National Council for Prevention against Drug Abuse, CONAPRE, will be classed as an under secretariat and that the other organizations will be up-graded.

Iturralde said Bolivia is reorganizing its antidrug institutions at the domestic level. He said that this will be followed by an international offensive to attract more attention to the drug problem and to encourage more resources that will be invested in coca eradication programs and in the struggle against drug trafficking.

Information Minister on Drugs, Corruption

PY2109221689 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Sep 89 p 8 (Second Section)

[Interview with Information Minister Manfredo Kempff by unidentified reporter—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Question] How will you defend sovereignty through the state-owned media?

[Kempff] Television Channel 7 will play an important role in this respect. In 2 months, a satellite may be ready to carry programs made in Bolivia—not bought from abroad—thus bringing our messages to people who work and live in isolated areas. [passage omitted]

[Question] In terms of coordination, what can be accomplished in the key issues of drug trafficking and corruption?

[Kempff] The press must be very careful when dealing with these issues. The media must cooperate with the government and the state to warn people against the dangers of drug trafficking, drug addiction, and the incredible harm caused by the corruption of and thefts by government officials.

As we can see the problems caused by drug trafficking and corruption in our neighboring countries, where a civil war is taking place with innocent people being killed every day, the press must supervise the measures to fight these crimes and ask the government to report on those measures.

The regrettable incident in Huanchaca [6 September 1986 incident in which scientist Noel Kempff Mercado, the minister's uncle, was killed in a shoot-out with drug traffickers and which was never resolved by the police] is a good example of a shameful mystery that has never been solved. The press must help to clarify the incidents that frequently occur in the country. Most of these

incidents have to do with mafia members settling scores, but they can also involve honest citizens who are courageously fighting against drug trafficking.

[Question] What do you think about how the previous administration treated this problem?

[Kempff] The previous administration talked a lot about the antidrug fight but did very little, almost nothing, about it. An example of the previous administration's failure is the coca eradication program that was never implemented. Regarding interdiction and repression, the Huanchaca incident, which was never resolved, is another good example of the previous administration's ineffectiveness in dealing with the problem.

General Molina Discusses Antidrug Measures

PY2109194189 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Sep 89 p 7

[Excerpts] In statements to EL DIARIO, General Mario Molina, the chief of the National Police, has said that "the recent serious events in Colombia, which have given rise to a truly continental mobilization against drug trafficking under U.S. sponsorship, have strengthened the spirit of the National Police, which are demonstrating their training and their efficiency in that mission."

Gen Molina added that "the real importance of the antidrug struggle was recognized only after the serious problems began in Colombia. The National Police will not permit the Colombianization of Bolivian territory."

The commander said that the police should have the technical and methodological resources to match those of drug traffickers if they are to eliminate the gangs that are still operating in Beni and Chapare. [passage omitted]

"That is why we think that the announcement by the U.S. Government that it will provide aid to match drug traffickers' power is very important, because the Bolivian police are courageous and want respect for their fatherland," he said.

Gen Molina reiterated his satisfaction over the scope of the Bennett plan, the implementation of which has yet to be announced by the United States. He added that the Bolivian antidrug experience has been recognized by institutions of other nations. Bolivian police specialists are currently giving a course in Chimore that is being attended by Ecuadoran and Peruvian antidrug policemen. The course will last 40 to 50 days.

This intensive course, which is called "the School of Claws," will then be held in October in Chapare where it will be attended by Argentine, Colombian, Brazilian, Peruvian, and Ecuadoran experts. This course will last 40 days. More than 1,000 Bolivian policemen of the special antidrug force will participate in the practical assignments of the course.

Gen Molina denied an announcement made in Washington that two groups of U.S. antidrug advisers are in Bolivia. [passage omitted]

Peasants Protest Violence in Cochabamba

PY2109153889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Relay from Cochabamba by Oscar Ordonez]

[Text] Peasant representatives from the Chapare tropical region are again in Cochabamba to protest the bombing of secondary roads in this region by UMOPAR [Mobile Units for Rural Areas] staff.

In a meeting with executives from the Tropical Region Federation and with departmental authorities, the peasants reported that at about 1600 on 18 September UMOPAR units, supported by armored helicopters, destroyed access roads in the (Puerto Barista) area of Sucre.

Speaking to the media, they reported that despite instructions issued by the interior minister to UMOPAR and promises that violence would be avoided, peasant settlers have again been subjected to violent actions. In view of this, the peasants say they will block the main Cochabamba-Santa Cruz road.

Brazil

Sarney To Address UN General Assembly 25 Sep

PY2109134089 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0930 GMT 21 Sep 89

[By Miriam Oliveira]

[Text] President Jose Sarney will deliver the UN General Assembly opening speech in New York on 25 September. In his speech, President Sarney will analyze the development of international relations over the last 4 years and review the political and economic aspects of these relations. He will comment on the detente between the world's main powers and politically analyze the Third World foreign debt. Sarney will also comment on all main topics affecting Latin America, including drug trafficking.

The Planalto Palace has not yet announced President Sarney's official agenda in the United States, but it has already leaked that Sarney will attend a dinner offered by President Bush on 25 September. President Sarney will meet with other Latin American presidents and visit a research center that uses atomic energy for medical treatment.

Finance Minister Visits Mexico, Comments on IMF

PY2109134389 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0930 GMT 89

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega is in Mexico taking part in a meeting of financial experts. He admitted that even though it is proving very hard to reach an agreement with the IMF, an agreement is not impossible.

After the meeting in Mexico, Minister Nobrega will leave for New York, where he will hold talks with the Creditor Banks' Advising Committee. [passage omitted]

Chile

Pinochet Acknowledges Possible Victory by Aylwin

PY2109012989 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 14 Sep 89 p 7

[Excerpt] In a speech on the Army's Day of Glories at a lunch hosted by the Union Club at Prat Hall, President Pinochet reiterated his accusations that the opposition parties received foreign funds for the 1988 plebiscite.

He said: "When the 5 October plebiscite arrived, it would not have been difficult for me to make a political move to extend my stay and to leave things as they were. But the Constitution was fulfilled. As I told my friends several times, our chances of winning were very small. We lost because history shows that people never like the government candidate. We also lost because the struggle was between government supporters and a group of politicians who had the support of foreign capital from Europe and the Americas."

In direct reference to Patricio Aylwin, Pinochet then said: "There is a man around here—whose name I do not want to mention, because tomorrow he will be my superior—who will not admit or deny that he received foreign money for the plebiscite." [passage omitted]

Foreign Debt Reduced Through Conversion

PY2109154689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2159 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Santiago, 20 Sep (EFE)—A Central Bank report published today in the Chilean press indicates that the conversion of the foreign debt, through the various mechanisms contained in the compendium of the exchange rules and regulations, amounted to $7,930,300,000 between 1985 and August 1989.

According to the report, this means that the debt that has to be negotiated with the international banking sector has been reduced to $6.5 billion, of which the Central Bank is responsible for $3 billion. [passage omitted]

Naval Prosecutor Indicts Three Terrorists

PY2109033689 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 10 Sep 89 p C-7

[By Gonzalo Cruzat Bizama]

[Excerpt] Valparaiso—Naval Prosecutor Corvette Captain Miguel Angel Munoz, Jr has indicted three alleged members of a Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front gang and ordered that they be held incommunicado for 5 more days. They were arrested on Thursday, 31 August, during clashes with the investigative police in Villa Alemana and in Valparaiso. One terrorist, Marcelo Esteban Barrios Andrade, died and two others were wounded during these incidents.

The detainees are Jorge Sebastian Muzz Fernandez, 26; Jorge Eduardo Donoso Gibert, 28; and Avelino del Transito Villarroel Munoz, 22. They are charged with organizing gangs, storing weapons and explosives, and assaulting members of the Armed Forces. They have also committed murders and robberies. [passage omitted]

Individual Attacks Military Unit in Temuco, Flees

PY2109000689 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 9 Sep 89 C-5

[Text] Temuco—An individual carrying a gun attacked a military unit in the western sector of Temuco last night after a bomb knocked down two high-tension towers and caused a blackout.

The attack on the Coilaco military office, which is located on the corner of Pedro de Valdivia and Magallanes Streets, occurred at 2140. According to initial reports, the individual fires at the military unit 6 times before he ran away. No one was injured.

According to a police report, the individual fired from behind a parked truck using 9-mm bullets, one of which went over the wooden wall and hit the desk of the military unit's chief.

Explosions in Santiago Cause Damage, No Injuries

PY2109010089 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 12 Sep 89 p 13

[Text] Terrorists have carried out bomb attacks against the offices of the Emos firm in Maipu and against the Independent Democratic Union, UDI, in La Pincoya, Conchali. According to police sources, the bombs caused extensive damage but no injuries.

In the first incident, terrorists threw a bomb made out of 200 grams of ammonium gelignite into the front yard of Maipu's water company at the corner of Leon XIII and San Jose Streets.

The explosion shattered 13 windows and damaged the facing of the building, but police reported that no one was injured.

In the second incident, terrorists threw another bomb made out of 200 grams of ammonium gelignite at the UDI offices at 5882 Recoleta Street in Pincoya. The bomb landed at the entrance to the building and caused minor damage.

The Seventh Criminal Court is investigating the first incident and the Nineteenth Criminal Court the second.

Colombia

U.S. Embroiled in Controversy Over Visa Issuance

Senators Respond to 'Blacklist'

PA2109230089 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Telephone interview with Senators Alberto Santofimio, Juan Slebi, and Bernardo Guerra by unidentified Radio Cadena Nacional reporter in Bogota—live]

[Text] One of the leading news items of the day is the list heatedly discussed last night at Congress. Some news agencies, especially EFE on 20 September, carried a report from Bogota according to which the U.S. Embassy in Bogota has a list of Colombian political leaders, reporters, athletes, and others, whose U.S. visas have been cancelled.

To discuss the issue, since it was debated last night at Congress, we have invited three senators who are on the alleged list, because there has been no official statement regarding its possible existence.

[Reporter] Senator Alberto Santofimio, good morning.
[Santofimio] Good morning, Juan.

[Reporter] Senator Juan Slebi, how are you doing? Hello? Senator Slebi is on the other line. Senator Bernardo Guerra, good morning.
[Guerra] Good morning, Juan my friend.

[Reporter] Let us begin by getting an explanation of what is really happening. Senator Santofimio, have you spoken to U.S. authorities in Bogota, has the embassy contacted you, or do you have an official report on this alleged list?
[Santofimio] I have not been informed about the existence of a list like the one the media is speculating about. I met with the U.S. consul, and I will disclose the events that have taken place since March regarding my personal case. It is precisely because of this that I am demanding now, as I did when I met with the consul, to be clearly told what charges, motives, or reasons the United States has for canceling the visas of congressmen and political leaders in the midst of an election process and campaign. I cannot allow a shadow of suspicion to linger, as it would if an adequate explanation is not made. Regardless of how much the United States may be entitled to make this decision—and it is—I am not interested in having my visitor's visa to the United States returned. I want our moral integrity and honesty to be respected, and I want a clear explanation of the motives or reasons why that country had to progressively escalate this type of action against members of Colombia's Congress.

Whether the list exists or not is a matter that the United States should divulge. I have demanded an explanation because I want to know why the situation has emerged, and why such an attitude has been adopted against a branch of government, so that it can be clearly explained at the congressional debates. The Colombian foreign minister is the person directly in charge of bilateral relations with the United States, and Colombia maintains relations with the United States. Therefore, Colombia should be informed or it should seek information regarding the situation of the congressmen involved, most of whom are members of the ruling party. These are individuals who contributed to the election of the current president and to the formation of the current government. Thus, the situation merits an explanation, as is customary between any two civilized nations anywhere in the world.

[Reporter] Senator Bernardo Guerra, were you officially informed of this situation by the U.S. Embassy?
[Guerra] Yes, more or less. I was informed through a news agency that 1 and ½ years ago my U.S. visa had been canceled. The agency had received a flyer. I later received a letter in which I was informed that I was not eligible to enter U.S. territory. I went to the U.S. consulate, attempted to find out why such an action had been adopted, and was told that the United States would not disclose its local or U.S. sources of information.

However, my attention has been drawn to the fact that a decision adopted 1 and ½ years ago is now the subject of a debate among my colleagues and other respectable individuals from the Liberal Party. However, it is good to analyze, study, and widely report on this issue in order to know where we are headed and what exists against Colombia, and especially against the party. Congress must explain why a decision adopted 1 and ½ years ago is being brought to the fore now. That is one of my concerns, and as Alberto [Santofimio] asked, I wonder why this action is directed mainly against members of the ruling Liberal Party.

[Reporter] Anyway, Senator Santofimio, one does not know why he is invited to a party. One should at least know why. Do you not know why you have not been invited to the United States?
[Santofimio] I believe there may be many reasons, the leading one of which is my long battle against the extradition of Colombian nationals which, of course, perturbs and irritates the U.S. Government. I have often said that I am opposed to extraditions for legal, political, and sociological reasons. I have said that we should restore the fulfillment of honest, prompt, and complete justice in Colombia, and not simply under the pretext of extraditing nationals to stand trial in a foreign language, under foreign laws, customs, and a different type of institutional establishment. That is equal to saying that Colombian justice is powerless and beset by difficulties.

The use of extradition as a pretext seriously deepens the judicial crisis. I have said, however, that I favor the extradition of foreigners to prevent Colombia from becoming a paradise of impunity, and so that anyone fleeing from justice in his own or another country, and whose capture is requested through legal means, can be extradited and made to respond to charges.

My position has been clear, as has been my permanent stance against U.S. intervention in free fatherlands such as Nicaragua and Panama. I have always maintained this position. What I find strange is that despite having held this position for a long time, I was granted a multiple visa to the United States, and this visa has been canceled now that I have become a hopeful whom the United States finds disturbing. I was warned of the situation through a friend, an American journalist, in his column published in EL TIEMPO, who said months ago that I had been targeted by the Drug Enforcement Agency. All of this undoubtedly constitutes improper meddling in Colombia's sovereign internal affairs; it is an attack on Congress, because no accusations have been leveled against anyone but several congressmen and, of course, quite curiously, the focus has been on members of the ruling party, as a means of pressing for certain reactions.

I also believe this constitutes a strategy of moral terrorism and violence at unfathomable levels. A candidate was murdered and, suspiciously enough, we can ask ourselves who was interested in radicalizing a war because of the murder of an important Colombian public figure. Now the United States plans to decree my moral death because of the suspicious circumstances it has created with its lists and decisions. What I am asking for is an explanation, not a visa to a country which I would feel uncomfortable visiting. I want the United States to clearly state what suspicions or charges it wants to level, or what point it is attempting to make against liberal congressmen whom it has very clearly linked to the violent situation in the country. I am going to say many things during the debate on Wednesday which I do not care to comment on now. I will prove how this entire situation constitutes the systematization of undue pressure against Colombia's sovereignty and its congress.

[Reporter] Senator Guerra Cerna, in addition to having your visa revoked, do you believe you are on a blacklist?

[Guerra] No sir, not at all. I respect the appraisal and decisions involved in the case. What I am asking for is an explanation of my personal situation. Furthermore, there is also another phenomenon; when one appears on a list stating that one is not eligible to enter U.S. territory, it becomes necessary to explain that one is seeking election in Colombia. In this case, Senator Alberto Santofimio wants to be elected senator for Tolima, which may lead to the possibility of a presidential candidacy, but with Colombian votes. In my case, I hope to continue directing the Liberal Party in Antioquia, and I am seeking election to the Senate by Colombian citizens, not citizens of other countries.

[Reporter] Anyway, Senator Santofimio, is it not true that you revealed brief relationships with individuals whom the United States would frown on?

[Santofimio] I am a direct, sincere, clear man in my dealings. When I was asked if I had met Pablo Escobar, I said yes, I met him when he was elected to the Chamber of Representatives on the dissident list of Antioquia's Galanista movement after he broke off with Galan. He had initiated his political career as a militant in that movement. When the time came to prepare the electoral slates Escobar broke off with Galan, and became the alternate of Jairo Ortega, the eminent university professor and attorney. I met them after they were elected to Congress. I did not elect them, they were not on any of my slates, because when I surrendered my candidacy at the Medellin convention—to which Guerra Cerna can attest—I did not have slates different from those of Tolima, I did not support any slates. Ortega and Escobar were elected autonomously as dissidents of the New Liberalism Party and, naturally, I met them after they were elected and had their credentials in hand. They supported the presidential candidacy of Alfonso Lopez Michelsen.

[Reporter] Senator Guerra, do you believe it would be advantageous to follow the suggestion made by the mayor of Medellin regarding the disclosure of the ties that have existed between ranking political figures and organized crime?

[Guerra] There are different times and opportunities to do things. That is one of the criteria which has brought together people who have their own opinions, convictions, and ability to clearly state their feelings without any pressures or coersion whatsoever. I did this after I returned from the United Nations; I said that underground money was one of the topics the country should analyze, and to which it should apply its own procedures and solutions. I became a target for the media because I had dared to speak of one of Colombia's greatest problems. These are the issues the country should focus on and study. I believe this issue is is important and that the debate we are going to hold at the Senate on 27 September is very important for our own institutions and the country's very health.

[Reporter] Senator Santofimio, when was the last time you visited the United States.

[Santofimio] I spent my Holy Week vacation in the United States in March. Curiously, the first letter the consul sent me was dated during the time I was in the United States. Had there been any difficulty with me besides my political opinions, my battle and struggle against U.S. imperialism, my defense of people's right to self-determination, my rejection of extradition, my rejection of the boycott of flower and coffee exports, and my rejection of the United States' negative attitude toward the coffee pact, why is it that only after I returned was I sent the letter? While I was on U.S. territory, had there been any suspicions regarding me, that was the time to take action, to judge, charge, retain, or investigate me or do whatever they wanted to.

I am willing to surrender my Senate privileges to facilitate any investigation whatsoever on my conduct regarding any crime or variety of standard behaviors they cite when a visa is denied. I repeat a thousand and one times that I do not plan to ever return to a country where I am told that I am not welcomed. All I want is to erase every shadow of suspicion that may exist regarding my conduct in relation to any crime. I will not alter my political opinions or my center-left attitude in response to absurd U.S. policies toward the Latin American countries, even at the cost of being the second candidate murdered because of the Drug Enforcement Agency.

[Reporter] I will be watching for the debate at the Congress and Senate on 27 September, which promises to be very interesting and revealing. Senator Guerra Cerna, thank you very much for your statements.
[Guerra] Thank you very much, Juan.

[Reporter] Senator Santofimio, it was very kind of you.
[Santofimio] Thank you very much, Juan. Good day.

Londono Wants U.S. Explanation

PA2209010389 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota—Some Colombian Liberal Party senators today again demanded that the Colombian Government promptly release an official report informing all Colombians of the exact list of people whose visas to enter the United States have been revoked.

Senators Bernardo Guerra Serna and Alberto Santofimio Botero asked the Foreign Ministry to accelerate the steps that must be made to obtain the official list from the U.S. Embassy in Bogota.

The U.S. Embassy has officially denied the existence of an alleged blacklist. Its official spokesmen have reiterated that all countries are free to decide whether a person should be allowed in their territory or not, saying that the situation is similar to deciding whether one wants to have a guest at one's house or not. However, the U.S. Embassy spokesmen also denied the existence of a blacklist.

that's why statements made by three of the senators—whose names apparently appear on the list—to this morning's "De Seis A Nueve" program exploded like a bomb. The U.S. Embassy, however, maintains that the list does not exist.

Senator Guerra, who said that his visa was canceled 1 and ½ years ago anyway, said that he does not see why they are linking his case and name with the current situation.

Senators Juan Slebi and Alberto Santofimio, however, confirmed that their visas were cancelled a couple of months ago. They said they do not have official information from the U.S. Consulate on why their visas were canceled.

After the senators made their statements this morning and after Senator Argesio Sanchez said that his visa had also been canceled, Colombian Foreign Minister Julio Londono discussed the U.S. Government's position.

Londono said that Colombia will formally ask the United States to explain why it has adopted these measures against Colombian figures who are evidently not simple, common citizens. In other words, now that relations between Colombia and the United States are at their best regarding the two governments' determination to fight drug trafficking, but not so good as far as the international coffee pact is concerned, could there be a deterioration in the overall relations due to the attitude adopted by the U.S. Government toward a group of Colombian senators and politicians?

That is why Colombian Foreign Minister Londono officially announced today that the Colombian Government will ask the U.S. Government for an explanation on why the aforementioned visas were revoked or canceled.

Following are Foreign Minister Londono's statements regarding the U.S. Government decision to cancel the visas of a group of Colombian senators:

[Begin recording] [Londono] I think that if this is true—and I cannot ascertain that yet—but if the U.S. Government believes or considers that certain Colombian citizens cannot or should not enter its territory because of apparent links to something, or for any other reason, it must inform the Colombian Government of that decision. It is its duty to inform us about its decision, because, in my opinion, the reputation of so many people will not be harmed in that way. There must be an official report on that. Such a decision cannot be disseminated through international press agencies. I have to obtain official information. Right now I cannot adopt any position on this.

[Unidentified reporter] Is the honor of the Colombian Congress at stake here, Mr Foreign Minister?

[Londono] Not only the honor of the Congress, but also the honor of some people. I repeat: Every country has a right to grant or deny entry into its territory to any foreigner. In fact, that has been the case on many occasions. That happens daily, not only with the people included on the list, but with many other Colombians whose entry into the United States has been denied for various reasons. However, we must find out whether the information that has been released is backed by evidence and which channels were used to release that information.

As far as I know, the U.S. Government has not delivered any list or anything similar to the Colombian authorities, or at least not to the Foreign Ministry.

Obviously, if the United States did release that list, it should adequately back the assertions it has made. [end recording]

Justice Minister De Greiff Tenders Resignation

PA2109234789 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 2303 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The most important news of the last few hours is the official confirmation of the resignation tendered by Colombian Justice Minister Monica De Greiff.

This newscast learned that Minister De Greiff tendered her resignation to Colombian President Virgilio Barco yesterday. President Barco has not yet replied. Reliable sources, however, stated that the Presidency may release its reply this evening or tomorrow at the latest.

In his acceptance letter of Minister De Greiff's resignation, President Barco will probably refer to some of the points included in Minister De Greiff's resignation letter.

This newscast confirmed that President Barco offered Minister De Greiff the post of Colombian ambassador to Portugal. We also learned that the minister turned down the offer and that she will travel abroad within the next few hours, but as a private citizen.

Apparently, this is all as far as Cabinet changes are concerned. It had been said that two more ministers would be removed, but apparently President Barco decided against those changes for the time being. There were rumors about the withdrawal of the current development minister and also about Barco's accepting recent resignations tendered by the entire Cabinet. Those reports, however, are unconfirmed. According to the information we have, thus far the Cabinet changes only include Justice Minister Monica de Greiff.

It was learned that Government Minister Orlando Vasquez met with with Liberal Party leaders and told them that if the current terms of the relations between the Liberal Party and the government do not change, he will withdraw from the government. It was said that Minister Vasquez made those statements before the leaders of his own party. He asked the Liberal Party leaders to revise the current relations between the ruling party and the government, which have deteriorated slightly.

It was also reported that Minister Vasquez told his partisans and fellow ministers that if the relations between the Liberal Party and the government do not improve or change significantly, he would withdraw from the Government Ministry. Those are the statements that Minister Vasquez reportedly made.

Continuing Coverage of Trafficking War

More on DAS Chief's Statements

PA2209021489 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] When General Miguel Alfredo Maza Marquez, director of the Administrative Department of Security [DAS], appeared before the Congress yesterday, he revealed the following facts to the country:

1. There is a connection between the schools headed by foreign mercenaries in middle Magdalena and the massacres that shocked Colombians last year. Massacres in Honduras, La Negra, Coquito, La Mejor Esquina, Segovia, and La Rochela followed the same plans, involved the same kinds of weapons, and at times even involved the same perpetrators. The DAS confirmed there is a connection between middle Magdalena and groups trained under the auspices of drug traffickers.

2. Military men participated in some of those massacres, especially in Honduras and La Negra.

3. A drug trafficking territorial expansion plan existed, especially for two areas, through the following path: Pacho, Yacopi, Puerto Boyaca, Cimitarra, Puerto Parra, Puerto Olaya, Puerto Berrio, San Luis, Puerto Triunfo, La Dorada, and Puerto Salgar. The plan was to expand from those places to Uraba and then to connect with Panama, which was the bridge for the supply of arms and a passageway for drugs.

4. Besides seeking an armed wing and geographical control, drug traffickers also sought a political and legal umbrella in MORENA [National Renewal Movement].

5. Techniques used by the drug traffickers and their armed groups were initially learned from the guerrillas with whom they had contacts. They continued to learn other techniques from foreign advisers.

6. Foreigners are closely linked to the wave of terrorism that is shaking the country today. Their schools taught the techniques that are being implemented today.

Former Politician Implicated

PA2109200489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1802 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota, 20 Sep (EFE)—It was reported today that during an operation carried out in the northern part of the country within the framework of the Colombian Government's "total war" against the narcotics cartels, Colombia's antinarcotics police seized approximately one ton of cocaine at the residence of a former deputy.

The cocaine was found at the residence of Former Deputy Pedro Rodriguez Munoz, of the Liberal Party, in Barranquilla. The police reported that the deputy was not in the building when the raid was carried out.

During the operation, the police arrested six persons. The police are now looking for the former deputy and for a member of an Atlantico Department dairy cooperative.

The police are trying to establish if Rodriguez Munoz is a member of the Medellin Cartel, as the media have hinted.

The drug seizure coincides with reports about the existence of an alleged "blacklist" prepared by the United States that includes the names of 25 well-known Colombian politicians whose U.S. visas have been cancelled because of their alleged links with the cocaine cartels.

Atlantico Department Police Commander Colonel Luis Lopez Aponte has reported that the arrested persons have said that the former deputy left the houses a few minutes before the raid. According to the official, the arrested drug traffickers are "low level employees."

Anti-narcotics Police Director Brigadier General Rafael Munoz Sanabria said today in Bogota that the anti-narcotics operations ordered by the government continue throughout the country.

Munoz Sanabria stated that the police have intensified their operations to capture the drug trafficking bosses in what has become the largest dragnet ever carried out against organized crime in Colombia's history.

Munoz Sanabria said: "The authorities' activities against the drug traffickers is permanent. The traffickers are not in the open so that everyone can see them. We are making efforts to capture the top bosses." He added: We daily receive information "about the presence of drug traffickers in some places, sometimes various reports indicate the presence of a drug trafficker in different places at the same time. It is normal for this to happen. We check all the reports anyway."

The antidrug operations initiated on 18 August in Colombia have resulted in the arrest of 535 persons linked to drug trafficking activities, including several "extraditable" people whose possible extradition to the United States is being analyzed by the government.

The authorities have also seized approximately 6 tons of drugs, including cocaine and cocaine paste; and more than 230 properties have been militarily occupied as a result of more than 2,100 raids.

On 18 August, the Virgilio Barco Government declared "total war" on drug trafficking. It was on 18 August that cocaine traffickers assassinated Colonel Waldemar Franklin Quintero, police commander of Antioquia Department; and Luis Carlos Galan, a Liberal Party presidential hopeful.

Raid in Cali; 1 Dead, 4 Injured

PA2109174989 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Report by Fernando Mosquera from Cali]

[Text] One person died and four were wounded, including a member of the 3d Brigade's 2d Battalion, during an Army raid on a residence in the Santa Fe neighborhood, in northern Cali. The raid is part of the operations carried out by security forces to locate terrorists who have tried to disrupt Cali's peace.

Official spokesmen said that the military forces' raid on a residence located between 17th Avenue and 43d Street was rejected with a heavy barrage of gunfire, at which time a shootout ensued. An alleged criminal, 23-year-old Carlos Arturo Aristizabal Aguirre, died during the action; and his brother, Norberto Aristizabal Aguirre, and Olmedo de Jesus Pena Marin , were wounded. A 2d Battalion member and a taxi driver who happened to be passing through were also wounded.

Nine Bombs Detonate in Bogota

PA2109125789 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1215 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota—An escalation in terrorist acts affected the capital and resulted in one person wounded and undetermined large property losses.

Nine powerful bombs exploded almost simultaneously at 0315 this morning at eight political parties' offices and a branch of the Social Savings Association.

According to authorities, the bombs went off at the political office of social conservative Councilman Diego Pardo Copel at No 1810 on 34th Street, the political offices of Bogota District Councilman Ricaurte Lozana Valderrama at No 2228 on 37th Street and No 2163 on 34th Avenue, the political office of social conservative Councilman Francisco Fanador Cabrera located at No 1824 on 32d Avenue, a Liberal Party office located at No 1866 on 36th Street, a Liberal Party registration office located at No 1976 28th Avenue, an Independent Conservative Party office at No 2326 37th Street, the political office of Miguel Santamaria Davila at No 4136 28th Avenue, and at a branch of the Social Savings Association at No 5119 on 86th Street.

The detonations shook Teusaquillo neighborhood, and according to official reports, the authorities felt compelled to increase security measures.

The wounded person was identified as Irma de Puentes, who was quickly treated at a clinic and released because she had only a minor wound in the leg.

Police Deactivate 2 Car Bombs

PA2109233489 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 2308 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Police found a vehicle with 100 kg of dynamite today and deactivated the charge. This is the second vehicle loaded with dynamite that was found today. The 3d Army Brigade Command issued a communique this afternoon, giving details of how the authorities thwarted new terrorist activities and how two vehicles loaded with dynamite, one of them containing 100 kg, were deactivated in the southwestern part of Bogota.

Bombs Explode in Bogota Banks

PA2209045089 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0352 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota, 21 Sep (EFE)—Authorities have officially reported that several bank offices were adversely affected tonight in the Chapinero neighborhood of northern Bogota when two bombs exploded, causing minor injuries to a child and a security guard.

The first bomb exploded by the door of a Banco de Occidente branch at 2115 local time (0215 GMT), and the shock wave damaged other nearby banks.

Following the explosion, a 9-year-old boy who lives near the Banco de Occidente was wounded by pieces of glass, said his relatives, who took him to the "Marly" clinic near the area.

At the same time, another bomb exploded at a Banco Popular branch, two blocks away from where the first explosion took place, police said.

Other banks and shops were damaged by the second explosion, and the security guard at the Banco Popular was also injured by pieces of flying glass, the authorities said.

According to preliminary reports, two men placed the explosive devices and left the scene on foot.

Both of these attacks tonight, attributed to the drug trafficking cartels, took place after 10 bombs exploded early this morning in the Teusaquillo area in downtown Bogota. The bombs were placed in nine political offices of the Liberal and Social Conservative Parties, and in another bank office.

Reward Offered for Two ELN Guerrilla Leaders

PA2109030689 Paris AFP in Spanish 0229 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota, 20 Sep (AFP) — A 100 million pesos ($250,000) reward has been offered for information on the whereabouts of Castrist Army of National Liberation [ELN] guerrilla leaders Priest Manuel Perez, and Nicolas Rodriguez. The reward was offered today in leaflets distributed all over the northeast country, which do not establish who will pay the reward.

The leaflets offering the reward were distributed in the cities of Bucaramanga, Arauca, Barrancabermeja, Cucuta, and other cities all located in northeast Colombia where this rebel group has traditionally operated.

A month ago, some cartels offered a 10 million pesos ($25,000) reward for Perez and Rodriguez.

The leaflets provide a list of telephones for possible informants to report the whereabouts of Perez and Rodriguez, and guarantee total anonymity. However, the leaflets do not mention which organization or who will pay the reward.

Government, M-19 To Enter New Dialogue

PA2109125389 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1220 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The government and the guerrilla M-19 [19 April Movement] will enter a new phase of the dialogue for peace today. They will discuss definite guidelines for the demobilization and reincorporation of the guerrillas into civilian life.

Deputy Government Minister Jose Noe Rios and peace adviser Rafael Pardo Ruedas left at 0600 for the village of Santo Domingo where they will hold dialogue with guerrilla leader Carlos Pizarro Leongomez.

Government Minister Orlando Vasquez Velasquez confirmed this at the end of a meeting at the presidential house, indicating that he is confident that a definite agreement will be reached with M-19.

Authorities Discover Terrorist Plan in Bogota

PA2209133289 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota—Security measures in the capital have been substantially beefed up after the military and police forces discovered a terrorist plan against a state institution.

General Ramon Niebles Uzcategui, commander of the 13th Brigade, reported that the plan was discovered following investigations in southwestern Bogota, and more specifically at Carvajal District, where the police discovered a car with 100 kg of gelignite at a residence. The car had a slow-burning fuse and mechanisms to set it off.

During the same investigation, the authorities found a Toyota camper with 15 kg of dynamite, a high-power motorcycle, and other items typical of terrorist activities.

UP Congress Expresses Solidarity With Panama

PA2209034589 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 18 Sep 89 pp 1, 12

[Resolution issued during by second congress of the Patriotic Union held in Bogota, Colombia from 9 to 10 September]

[Text] "The persistent economic aggression, the military threats, and the open meddling in the internal affairs of Panama seeks to totally annul the main accomplishment of the Torrijos-Carter treaties: That beginning in the year 2000 Panama administers, defends, maintains, and operates the waterway for its own benefit."

This was stated by delegates from various Latin American countries who attended the second congress of the

Patriotic Union [UP]. Important declarations expressing solidarity with the Panamanian cause were approved at the congress. Javier Bonagas, and Elixsandro Ballesteros attended the UP congress representing the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD].

Following is the text of the resolution.

The parties and organizations from Colombia and from fraternal countries, guests, and delegates to the second congress of the Patriotic Union held in Bogota from 9 to 10 September 1989.

Proclaim:

The U.S. Government continues a policy of intervention in the internal affairs of all Latin American and Caribbean countries. Its goal is to aid the crisis of domination which has intensified since the 1980's with the Central American revolution. The U.S. policy is inspired by the so-called Doctrine of National Security, which violates the self-determination and sovereignty of nations.

The persistent economic aggression, the military threats, and the open meddling in the internal affairs of Panama seek to totally annul the main achievement of the Torrijos-Carter treaties: That beginning in the year 2,000 Panama administers, defends, maintains, and operates the waterway for its own benefit. The United States is trying to maintain the U.S. Southern Command military complex to threaten and attack Central American peoples and all nations of our America who dare to reaffirm their independence.

Therefore, we express our solidary support to the patriotic and nationalistic Panamanian forces resisting with determination the agression to the national sovereignty and dignity, and struggling for the total decolonization of their territory. Moreover, we report that the U.S. meddling hinders the free democratic development of the Panamanian people.

We support the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] and the Salvadoran people who today are struggling for a political and democratic solution, whose fundamental solution would be the end of the U.S. military intervention.

We support the democratic electoral process urged by the Sandinist Government and reject the U.S. attempt to hamper these elections and maintain the aggression.

We reject the U.S. military intervention in Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia with the pretext of fighting drug trafficking, whose origin lies in the U.S. society itself.

We are in solidarity with the Colombian people in their struggle for the right to live, to have a democracy, and to have peace. We are against the U.S. military presence and against the presence of Israeli mercenaries in Colombia.

Within a spirit of continental Unity and Integration, we hereby make a commitment to hold the second Latin American and Caribbean congress for the self-determination, solidarity, and lives of our peoples, which will be held in Bogota from 24 to 26 September of this year.

Signed by:

Operational Committee of the second Latin American and Caribbean congress; Colombian House of Solidarity With People; FMLN-FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] Political-Diplomatic Commission; PRD of Panama; People's Party of Panama; Communist Party of Cuba; National Liberation Party of Ecuador; Democratic People's Movement of Ecuador; Socialist Party of Ecuador; Popular Socialist Party of Mexico; Barricade People's Movement [Movimiento Popular Barricada]-Socialist League of Venezuela; Revolutionary Convergence of Venezuela [Convergencia Revolucionaria de Venezuela]; Radical Cause of Venezuela; Socialist Party of Venezuela; Communist Party of Venezuela; Association of Venezuelan Jurists; Binational Committee of Venezuelan Youths; United Central Organization of Venezuelan Workers;

Colombian-Venezuelan Friendship Committee; Unified Mariateguista Party of Peru; Communist Party of Colombia; Patriotic Union of Colombia; "Lets' Struggle" Political Organization of Colombia;

19 April Movement; People's Front of Colombia; "United Colombia;" Democratic Movement; Colombian Ecologist Party.

Official Foresees Foreign Exchange Crisis

PA2109124889 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] From Bogota: Colombia is on the threshold of a severe foreign exchange crisis owing to high interest payments to foreign banks, the drop in coffee sales, and the irregular levels of sales abroad, the National Department of Planning [DNP] has said. The country has paid over $1.6 billion in interest payments, and this is diminishing the possibilities of a better life for millions of Colombians. Paying foreign debt commitments is now becoming a very heavy burden for the country, and the government must work on this to allow the economy to become stronger, the DNP director [no name given] said.

Ecuador

Cordovez Asks U.S. Help With Drug Trafficking

PA2109200289 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1924 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Quito, 21 Sep (DPA)—Ecuador, initially excluded from the "Bush Plan" against drug trafficking, today asked for U.S. cooperation to fight this crime, which it described as "a terrible evil that grows worse every day."

The request, limited to the provision of supplies, was made by Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez

during an interview he held today with U.S. Ambassador Richard Holwill to analyze the scope of President George Bush's plan to fight the drug-trafficking mafia.

Official Ecuadoran sources have described Ecuador's exclusion from the plan, despite the fact that the plan is intended for the Andean region, where Ecuador is located, as "unjustifiable." The local media has strongly criticized the U.S. Government's decision.

According to the local daily HOY, however, Ecuador has received $4 million worth of equipment for the struggle against drug trafficking. The newspaper does not report the source of this information or the type of equipment that allegedly has been received by Ecuador, and neither the Ecuadoran Government nor the U.S. Embassy have confirmed or denied this report.

During today's meeting Cordovez pointed out Ecuador's efforts in fighting drug trafficking, efforts that have allowed the country to keep the problem under control in spite of its lengthy border with Colombia, a border that is mostly jungle.

Paraguay

Military Chiefs Voice 'Concern' on Democracy

PY2209010489 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 21 Sep 89 p 11

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] Ten military unit commanders issued a joint communique this morning saying that they "are concerned about the country's political stability and the people's well-being" and that they "are observing with concern that in some sectors of society the concept of democracy is incorrectly understood. Democracy, properly understood, allows the free exercise of individual rights but imposes an obligation to act within the framework of the law and respect for authorities."

The communique says: "The Armed Forces, conscious of the active role they have played in many chapters of the nation's history—whether defending the country's territorial integrity or guaranteeing its internal peace—and in support of the proclamation of the commander in chief, have assumed the responsibility of restoring the nation's dignity and a commitment to contribute their efforts to the institution of democracy in our country."

The document adds that "with this identity of purpose, the Armed Forces express their unconditional support for all of the national government's undertakings and their decision to cooperate with all well-meaning Paraguayans in order to attain the objectives that will make our nation great. Understanding that these objectives cannot be achieved through the efforts of just a few people, the Armed Forces call on all inhabitants of our dear fatherland to cooperate in this noble and necessary undertaking so as to realize the modern and democratic Paraguay to which we all aspire."

The communique continues: "In this historical task, the political parties assume an important role as channels of expression for our people's wishes and thoughts. The Colorado Party, as the party in government, has the responsibility of ensuring that its leaders' actions develop in a climate of agreement, harmony, and unity of purpose as the best way to contribute to consolidating the nation's unity."

The commanders note that "in his 3 February proclamation General Andres Rodriguez said that we also came out of our garrisons for the total unification of the Colorado Party in government. The commanders value what has been done in this regard, but they also believe that a great deal still remains to be done. Therefore, it is necessary to put aside personal interests and ambitions in order to achieve the stability necessary for the nation's development."

The communique says: "They also appreciate the church's important role in this process and pray to the Almighty to continue to guide His priests, the followers of Saint Roque Gonzalez de Santa Cruz."

The communique adds that "the Armed Forces, the guardians of the country's political stability and the well-being of all its inhabitants, are observing with concern that in some sectors of society the concept of democracy is incorrectly understood. Democracy, properly understood, allows the free exercise of individual rights, but imposes an obligation to act within the framework of the law and respect for the authorities. As Paraguayans, they express their conviction that the goals and ideals of a real democracy will only be achieved by obeying the rules of social coexistence and respect for human rights. They confirm that they will remain alert and vigilant and will support with loyalty and firmness the efforts of their commander in chief, Division General Andres Rodriguez, to lead Paraguay toward its destiny of greatness."

The communique was signed by Division General Otello Carpinelli Yegros, commander of the III Corps; Vice Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit, commander of the Navy; Division General Eumelio Bernal Gimenez, Armed Forces chief of staff; Division General Abraham Abed, Military Training Institutes Commander; Division General Juan de Dios Garbett, commander of the II Corps; Division General Ramon Humberto Garcete, commander of the I Corps; Brigadier General Victor Aguilera Torres, logistics commander; Division General Juan Manuel Campos Guillen, combat support commander; Brigadier General Ricardo Rojas Ortiz, commander of the First Indepencent Infantry Division; and Brigadier General Dionisio Cabello Amarilla, interim commander of the Air Force.

Official Previews Rodriguez Speech to UN

PY2109152089 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 21 Sep 89 p 13

[Text] Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Hugo Saguier Caballero has said President Andres Rodriguez will outline the course of our foreign policy for the upcoming years in the speech that he will deliver at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Rodriguez will be the first person to speak on 26 September, "which is an exceptional event in our diplomatic history," Saguier noted.

The under secretary stressed that Rodriguez will deliver the first speech on 26 September, and that this is the first time in 44 years that Paraguay has been honored in this way.

"This will be a milestone in our foreign policy," Saguier said, adding that in his speech Rodriguez will outline the Paraguayan foreign policy for the upcoming years.

The official delegation, in which party leaders, agency representatives, businessmen, and journalists will accompany the president, will leave for the United Nations headquarters in New York on 24 September.

The General Assembly meeting will be inaugurated on 25 September with a speech by Brazilian President Jose Sarney, who is about to complete his presidential term.

The General Assembly sessions will be attended by many chiefs of state, including former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and current U.S. President George Bush, who will address the Assembly in the 1st year of his term.

Saguier confirmed that Rodriguez will meet with Sarney on 25 September, and that on 26 September UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will have lunch with the presidents.

On the evening of 25 September, Bush will host a reception for all the chiefs of state. On this occasion he is scheduled to meet with the Paraguayan president.

It was reported that Rodriguez will also meet with other presidents who will be attending the session, among them, Argentina's Carlos Menem, Brazil's Jose Sarney, and Bolivia's Jaime Paz Zamora. The Paraguayan president will also meet with Inter-American Development Bank President Enrique Iglesias.

The Paraguayan delegation will include of Foreign Minister Luis Maria Argana, Senate President Alberto Nogues, presidential diplomatic official Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, presidential secretary Conrado Pappalardo, presidential private secretary Eladio Loizaga, and two aides-de-camp.

The following lawmakers have also been invited to join the delegation: Colorado Party leader Persio da Silva, Authentic Radical Party leader Domingo Laino, and Febrerista Party leader Euclides Acevedo.

The delegation will be accompanied by the journalists accredited to Government House and by a group of businessmen who will pay for their travel and hotel expenses.

The businessmen will formulate specific proposals to promote Paraguayan exports to the United States and will contact representatives of other countries.

The group of businessmen will include representatives of the rural, textile, agro-industrial, sugar, and press sectors.

Peru

Abel Salinas Designated Foreign Debt Negotiator

PY2109144189 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The government has officially designated [former Economy Minister] Abel Salinas the representative of the Peruvian president to negotiate the Peruvian foreign debt. Salinas has been granted the rank of special ambassador.

The report on Salinas' designation is published in the Official Gazette, which adds that Salinas will have the broadest support concerning coordination of actions, information, and financing of all public administration sectors related to the foreign debt.

Government Saves Petroperu From Economic Collapse

PY2109132789 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 18 Sep 89 p 2

[Text] The government yesterday threw a financial life jacket to the State Petroleum Agency [Petroperu] to save it from almost certain economic collapse: It assumed all Petroperu's short and long term debts in foreign currency, amounting to nearly $600 million.

The government not only assumed the responsibility for all Petroperu's debts with financial organizations and foreign banks but also assumed responsibility for Petroperu's debt with the National Bank for more than 92 billion intis.

The authorization for the state to assume all Petroperu's financial obligations is granted by a government decree that was published in the EL PERUANO Official Gazette yesterday. The decree is signed by President Alan Garcia, Council of Ministers President Luis Alberto Sanchez, Economy Minister Cesar Vasquez Bazan, and Energy Minister Mario Samame.

According to the decree, the state will assume responsibility for the following debts:

—The principal of Petroperu's short term foreign debt, some $47.4 million, that fell due on 31 December 1988, also the government assumed responsibility for $3.2 million on account of interest on this debt.

—$33.7 million on account of the principal, contracted interest, and fines on the long term foreign debt, which also fell due on 31 December 1988.

—$95 million on account of another long term foreign debt which is scheduled to fall due on 31 December 1988 [as published], principal and interest included.

Regarding Petroperu's domestic debt, the government decree says that out of the total debt of 92 billion intis, only 25 billion intis is the principal, and the largest part (over 66 billion intis) represents interest.

To pay the Petroperu domestic debt, the state will deposit in the National Bank 19 billion intis in treasury bonds on account of the principal and will leave the balance pending the formalization of a contract with the bank.

After mentioning a series of complementary financial measures, the decree authorizes Petroperu to contract new credits with the National Bank and COFIDE [Financial Development Corporation] to recover its financial status and establishes guidelines for the efficient exploation of the Peruvian oil reserves.

Health Minister Reportedly Resigns 21 Sep

PY2109035489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0124 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Lima, 20 Sep (EFE)—An official source has told EFE that Health Minister David Tejada de Rivero resigned today, 4 months after he assumed his post and on the eve of the expected reshuffle of current Cabinet.

The source said that Rejada de Rivero explained that he was resigning for "strictly personal" reasons in a letter addressed to Prime Minister Luis Alberto Sanchez.

Tejada de Rivero's resignation follows a strong public controversy over a shortage of medicines. The supply of medicine to pharmacies was suspended because no agreement could be reached on prices.

Tejada de Rivero had canceled a 40-percent increase in medicine prices that had been ordered by an official organization, and he could not reach an agreement with the laboratories.

Tejada de Rivero, a 55-year-old physician, was installed in mid-May as a member of President Alan Garcia's fourth Cabinet.

Unofficial sources have reported that a Cabinet reshuffle could be decided on during the Council of Ministers meeting to be held tomorrow.

A reshuffling of the cabinet could affect an undetermined number of ministers who need to resign 6 months before April 1990 if they want to run for official posts in the presidential elections that month.

Press sources said that Prime Minister Sanchez, 89, could resign to seek a nomination as senator. Sanchez has been heading the Cabinet since May.

Huamango Mayor Murdered by Terrorists

PY2009132789 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpt] A group of terrorists yesterday murdered with three gunshots Huamanga, I repeat, Huamanga Mayor Dario Fermin Azparrent, who is 62. He was shot dead as he was leaving his house in the Magdalena neighborhood.

Azparrent, a member of the Peruvian Communist Party, was murdered as he was leaving his house located on the corner of Los Jirones, Andes, and Manco Capac Streets. [passage omitted]

Uruguay

Sanguinetti Returns, Comments on Trip Results

PY2009032289 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] President Julio Maria Sanguinetti has said that Uruguay should carefully follow developments of the war against drug trafficking in Colombia. Sanguinetti said that war could spread to the rest of the world.

President Sanguinetti has returned to Montevideo from his trip to Japan and the United States. He reassumed the Presidency immediately after returning to the country. The president talked about the country's efforts to renegotiate the debt.

[Begin recording] [Sanguinetti] We intended to follow up on our talk with President Bush. President Bush and I talked about the Uruguayan position on the debt and about our application, or demand, to participate in the debt reduction plan. We explained our position, the difficulties the country has gone through this year, the effects of the region's crisis, the consequences of the drought, and the need to participate in an arrangement such as the one it has proposed. We expect our request will be accepted; we have his support and we think it will shore up our position even more.

We can say tht our talk with the U.S. Government was necessary but not sufficient. It was necessary because without it we could not even attempt to negotiate with banks. It is not sufficient because our final negotiations will be carried out with the banks.

[Reporter] Mr President, besides public relations with the big countries and the wheat deal, what do you think is the most important result of your trip?

[Sanguinetti] The most important result was the agreement for financial and technological aid, and the cultural agreement with Japan. They want to support our theater, and I think that support will be very important. Second

in importance was the support we arranged for a satisfactory renegotiation of our debt. We will try to solve the problem during this administration. In any case, the upcoming administration will find negotiations well under way.

[Reporter] What do you think is more important?

[Sanguinetti] First [words indistinct]. Today we talked with Henry Kissinger. He does not hold any public office, but his opinions have great repercussions in his country and in the world.

[Reporter] We have perceived a great concern about drug trafficking. You have made comments about the need for an international organization to coordinate all international efforts. Is Uruguay in any danger of becoming a financial center for drug money?

[Sanguinetti] The entire world is at risk of becoming involved. The struggle against drug trafficking in Colombia can involve the world. There are two alternatives: Colombia can be successful, or it can fail. It will be a tragedy for the world if Colombia is subdued by the drug lords, [words indistinct]. If Colombia is successful—something we sincerely want and support—the problem will not spread. We have said that the problem did not begin in Medellin's streets, but in New York's streets.

Uruguay is aware of the problem. We should prevent the problem from spreading by becoming conscious of the gravity of the problem and taking strong action within our families, and within society as a whole. [end recording]

Ten Presidential Hopefuls in Upcoming Elections

FY2109173989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0201 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Montevideo, 20 Sep (EFE)—The Workers Party [Partido de los Trabajadores], a new political party, today nominated Juan Vital Andrada as its candidate for the Presidency in the upcoming 26 November elections.

With Andrada's nomination there are now 10 candidates seeking to succeed President Julio Maria Sanguinetti on 1 March 1990.

The Workers Party is the sixth organization with lists of candidates in the upcoming elections.

In Uruguay there is no limit to the number of candidates that each party can run, because simultaneous doble voting is used: Both the party and the candidate are voted for.

The governing Colorado Party has named three candidates for the Presidency: Jorge Batlle, 62, who has already been a candidate twice; former President Jorge Pacheco Areco, 69; and Hugo Fernandez Faingold, 42.

The National Party (Blanco), the main opposition party, also has three candidates: Luis Alberto Lacalle, 48; Alberto Saenz de Zumaran, 49; and Carlos Julio Pereira, 67.

The leftist coalition Broad Front has for the second time nominated General Liber Seregni, 73.

New Space [Nuevo Espacio], which is made up of splinter factions of the Broad Front, and the conservative Civic Union have nominated Hugo Batalla, 63, a social democrat, former Colorado Party congressman, and currently senator for the leftist coalition.

Finally, the Green Party [Partido Verde], which will participate for the first time in elections, has the oldest candidate: Rodolfo Talice, 90, a doctor and researcher.

Public Works Minister Sanguinetti Resigns

PY2109123489 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0930 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] At 1100 today, Dr Alejandro Atchugaray will be sworn in as the new minister of transport and public works. The resignation tendered by outgoing Minister Jorge Sanguinetti has been accepted. The new minister will be sworn in by President Julio Sanguinetti at the Libertad building. Jorge Sanguinetti resigned his post that he assumed in 1 March 1985 to engage in the political campaign. He will join the United Batlleism ticket headed by Jorge Batlle.

Senator Batlle Resigns To Run for President

PY1909172989 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 13 Sep 89 p 5

[Summary] Senator Jorge Batlle has resigned from the Senate to run for the post of president of the country in the upcoming general elections. His seat in the Senate has been taken by his alternate, Ercilia Bomio de Brum.

Venezuela

Perez Comments on Debt Renegotiation Publicity

PA2209043589 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez commented on press reports regarding Venezuela's goal of reducing its foreign debt. President Perez said that there has been an avalanche of news in the media, with the intention of creating some confusion.

[Begin recording] In my speech on 14 September I said that we must be patient, because we will face a publicity campaign. It is inevitable and even expected, because the meetings in which we are participating are not very pleasant. There are two interests in those meetings: the creditor bank's interest and the debtor's interest. But there is still another interest: the country's interest. The

media is being used in the negotiations process in an attempt to weaken our negotiating capacity. [end recording]

Nicaragua's Chamorro Meets Perez; Urges Support

PA2109001789 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1647 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Caracas, 20 Sep (DPA)— Violeta Chamorro, a Nicaraguan opposition presidential candidate, today changed her previous statement regarding her intentions to dissolve the Sandinist Army if she wins the 25 February 1990 elections. Today she said that she would only significantly reduce the number of soldiers.

Chamorro, presidential candidate for the National Opposition Union (UNO), made that statement in Caracas today after meeting with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, with whom she discussed the current situation in her country.

Venezuela and Costa Rica have assumed the role of advisers to the Nicaraguan electoral authorities.

Chamorro, who arrived in Caracas last night and is accompanied by UNO vice presidential candidate Virgilio Godoy, said that she hopes Venezuela will support and cooperate with the electoral process in her country.

Meanwhile, Godoy said that the opposition is extensively participating in the ballot-receiving boards. He added that there will be international observing commissions from the UN and OAS, as well as a commission made up of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and former Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, among other political leaders.

According to Godoy, "all that will necessarily contribute to preventing the usual temptation in our country to manipulate votes."

Suriname

Belgian Group Meets With Foreign Minister Sedoc

FL2009202389 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The parliamentary delegation from the Flemish Council of Belgium, which is at the moment in Suriname, yesterday paid a courtesy call on Foreign Affairs Minister Eddie Sedoc.

During this visit, both the chairman of the Flemish Council, Mr (Louis Von Felhoven), and Minister Sedoc emphasized the good relations between Suriname and Belgium. Mr (Von Felhoven) said during his speech yesterday that the visit of the delegation is an important step in the relation between Suriname and Belgium. Through this visit, a good picture can be formed of the relation and an evaluation can also made, said (Von Felhoven). Foreign Affairs Minister Sedoc said he finds it very positive that Belgium has chosen Suriname as concentration country for development cooperation.

The Belgian delegation, which is paying an orientation visit, will leave next week Tuesday.

Chairman Interviewed

FL2109200089 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The parliamentary delegation from the Flemish Council of Belgium says it is shocked by the problems which are facing Suriname. The 13-men strong delegation arrived in our country last Monday [18 September] for an orientation visit.

The chairman of the Flemish Council, (Louis Von Felhoven), in an interview with journalists, pointed out the possibilities which Suriname has for development. He expects that Suriname will be out of the economic crisis within 5 years. The chairman of the Flemish Council promised its support to the democratic process in Suriname. The council furthermore gives support to cultural exchanges and development cooperation, said (Von Felhoven). He concluded that the large number of young parliamentarians in Suriname is a guarantee for political stability in the coming years.

The Flemish parliamentary delegation will hold discussions with, among others, the trade union movement and the trade and industry sectors in the coming days. The delegation will leave Suriname next week Tuesday.

Soviet Envoy: Bilateral Relations Deepening

FL2109203389 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The new Soviet ambassador to Suriname, (Yuriy Dembosov), has yesterday presented his credentials to President Ramsewak Shankar. Ambassador (Dembosov) also paid a courtesy visit yesterday to Foreign Minister Eddie Sedoc.

The minister declared that relations with the Soviet Union have deepened. He added that within this framework it has become necessary to open a permanent mission in Eastern Europe. According to Sedoc, this is, however, not possible at the moment because of lack of manpower and money.

The new Soviet ambassador declared that he will dedicate himself for the further deepening of relations between the two countries. He says he has come to Suriname with a number of concrete facts for cooperation. (Yuriy Dembosov)'s appointment to Suriname represents his first diplomatic posting.

Indications Show Indians' Weapons From Venezuela

FL2009204089 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] According to Assembly Chairman Jaggernath Lachmon, the government has indications that the rebellious Tucayana Amazon Amerindians have been supplied with weapons by plane.

Lachmon stated that the shipment of weapons was delivered last week at the airstrip of the Amerindian Village (Guamalatemuto), near the border with Brazil. The assembly chairman made this disclosure last Monday during a discussion with the chairman of the military authority, Commander Desi Bouterse. The assembly chairman suspects that the weapons have come from Venezuela.

Commander Bouterse expressed during the discussion his concern about the current situation in the country. The Tucayana Amazon Indians have been carrying out armed actions for nearly 3 weeks now and have Western Suriname under their control.

Commission Opposes Refugee Registration Method

FL2009152089 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The registration of Surinamese refugees in French Guiana hasn't started because of a difference of opinions within the Tripartite Commission.

The registration of the refugees should have started yesterday. This, however, didn't take place because of the fact that two partners within the Tripartite Commission don't agree with the manner in which the registration of the refugees would take place. The tripartite commission consists of representatives from Suriname, France, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. This commission is preparing the repatriation of the Surinamese refugees.

France and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees are of the opinion that only those who want to repatriate [word indistinct] should be registered. Suriname, however, wants a systematic registration of all the refugees in French Guiana.

According to reports from French Guiana, only a small number of refugees went to the registration bureau at the bordering town of Saint-Laurent in French Guiana. They said that they don't have confidence in the registration because they think that information will be misused.

Strike in Nickerie Suspended for Security Reasons

FL2009154089 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The actions announced by the people of the Nickerie District to press for a dialogue between the government and the Amazon Indians has been suspended for security reasons. This was told to the press by the leader of the action committee in Nickerie, (Sander Bajou) yesterday.

Last Sunday the action committee issued an ultimatum to the government to hold dialogue with the Tucayana Amazon Indians, or create a general strike on Wednesday this week. They have also threatened to stop the export of rice. The Nickerie District produces most of the rice for both the local and export markets.

According to the leader of the action committee, (Bajou), the safety of the people of Nickerie isn't guaranteed in eventual actions. The actions would only further hamper a solution in this matter, said (Bajou). According to him, the action committee has, therefore, decided to temporarily suspend the action.

The people of the Nickerie District in letters to the president, the assembly chairman, and the rebels pointed out the jeopardizing effects on the economy of Nickerie and has called for a dialogue between the rebels and the government.